FOREIGN
BROADCAST
INFORMATION
SERVICE

Daily Report

Supplement

Near East & South Asia

IRAN:
Majles Sessions

FBIS-NES-92-015-S
Thursday
23 January 1992

Near East & South Asia

SUPPLEMENT

IRAN

Majles Sessions

FBIS-NES-92-015-S *23 January 1992*

CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An • indicates material not disseminated in electronic form. Please note that beginning with the 9 December 1991 issue related items concerning Majles will be published under the heading Related Material.

RESALAT Reports on Majles Sessions 1
12 Nov *[13 Nov]* 1
13 Nov *[14 Nov]* 4
19 Nov *[20 Nov]* 7
20 Nov *[21 Nov]* 9
• 27 Nov *[28 Nov]* 12
• 8 Dec *[9 Dec]* 15
• 10 Dec *[11 Dec]* 19
• 22 Dec *[23 Dec]* 23
• 24 Dec *[25 Dec]* 25

RESALAT Reports on Majles Sessions

12 Nov

PM0301153092 Tehran RESALAT in Persian 13 Nov 91 pp 5, 11

[Excerpts] Legislative and Parliamentary Division—During yesterday morning's open session of the Majles, chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Karrubi, following the speeches by the deputies from Marand, Bostan Abad, Meshkin Shahr and Arak, Gholam 'Abbas Za'eri made some remarks in accordance with Article 77 of the Majles internal regulations, in reply to comments made by the deputy from Minab the previous week. This was followed by continued discussion on the weekly item on the agenda.

Karim Shafe'i, Marand Deputy

The confiscation of an Iranian ship by Turkey was done under orders of the United States, in response to Iran's support for the Palestinian uprising.

Karim Shafe'i was the first pre-agenda speaker. [passage omitted]

In another section of his speech, he condemned the Turkish confiscation of a ship carrying goods for Iran and added: The confiscation of an Iranian ship was done under orders of the United States and Israel and was a response to Iran's support for the Palestinian uprising and the holding of a holy conference to support the Palestinian revolution. In reality, we are being punished for the all-out support given by the Islamic nation to the people of Palestine, the oppressed, the poor and dear Jerusalem.

The deputy from Marand criticized the manner in which some ministries participated in the Tehran International Trade Fair and considered the fair to be a propaganda tool for foreign goods.

He said: Unfortunately various ministries, especially the Ministry of Heavy Industries, instead of promoting local production, turned the fair into an arena for the presentation of foreign goods. Countries such as Germany, Japan, and France were allowed to participate without paying the large sums of hard currency which was imposed on us. They were permitted to display their goods, which meant that our heavy industries became propaganda tools for foreign production.

He also heavily criticized the current methods of advertising which has turned the sides of buses and walls in the streets into promotions for computers, Japanese and other production. He said: I do not know why we should not be aware of the most basic principles of advertising in this country. Why should a society which wants to depend on internal production and whose perpetual slogan is one of self-sufficiency willingly advertise foreign goods? I think this is an unforgivable mistake. Ministries and municipalities, especially the Ministry of Heavy Industries, must pay special attention to production and goods assembled locally. At the conclusion of his speech, the deputy from Marand talked about the problems in his constituency and said: The largest factory producing powder used in ceramics is in the town of Marand, and it is said to be unique in the Middle East. On the other hand, we do not have in this country one university, or at least a college, devoted to the art of ceramics. He said: According to unofficial records, Turkey last year exported $6 billion worth of glass, ceramics, and porcelain, while at the same time, the largest mine that produces the powder for ceramics is in our own country, in the town of Marand.

He then requested that a university be established for glassware and ceramics and asked that these important products receive more support, since they could be effective in terms of our nonoil exports.

Mohammad Esma'il Delbari, Bostan Abad Deputy

If we do not provide mental stimulation for our young people, we will not be able to prevent the infiltration and expansion of corrupt foreign culture.

Mohammad Esma'il Delbari, the deputy from Bostan Abad, was the second pre-agenda speaker. [passage omitted]

In another section of his speech, Delbari commented on the economic climate in the country and said: Now that the atmosphere of free economy has prospered in the country, those with capital from inside and outside the country are encouraged to invest. Friendly relations are established with the Western countries in order to mobilize the wheels of production, so that inflation can be brought under control. But it is necessary to pay more attention to some points. First of all, we must keep in mind that the holders of very large capital will never be willing to invest in major industries in the country. Second, we must realize that the Western countries are not going to feel any sympathy toward us and that they are only after their own interests, even if they are long-term. This is why our attitude must be one of caution and awareness so that these relations do not damage the spiritual goals and aspirations of the revolution, so that we do not lose our political independence. We must also watch their actions inside our country carefully.

He added: Without a doubt the wisdom, experience, and management capabilities of Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani are known to all. He is the people's one hope in these sensitive times, and quite rightly. It is expected of him personally not to react harshly toward the few criticisms that are made against the government's political and economic actions by individuals or newspapers. Criticism in any shape is constructive and indicates growth and maturity and freedom of speech among people. God forbid, if one day such criticism or freedom of speech is curtailed for any reason. This will most definitely not be in the regime's or the revolution's interest. I hereby warn those newspapers who make large issues out of small

ones, who stray from the truth, that their mission is to tell the truth, not to exaggerate.

Ahmad Hemmati, Meshkin Shahr Deputy

Ahmad Hemmati, the Meshkin Shahr deputy, was the third pre-agenda speaker, who used three minutes of the Arak deputy's time.

He started his speech by saying that all the world's Muslims are fully aware that the number one enemy of Muslims is the Great Satan, the United States. He said: It is obvious that in order to dry the roots of corrupt U.S. control and that of its illegitimate child, Israel, the region's peoples must first revolt against the mercenary and puppet rulers and leaders of Islamic countries. It is hoped that, in the same way, the Madrid conference will become futile and worthless.

He then talked about the problems of his constituency and asked that the gas network be extended to the area as soon as possible.

Seyyed Hasan al-Hoseyni, Arak Deputy

The last pre-agenda speaker was al-Hoseyni, the deputy from Arak. In his speech, he talked about the disgrace of Arab rulers with regard to the American conference in Madrid. He said: The differences among the Arabs and their unity with the enemy, their indifference toward their national interests and ideological issues are headed in a direction that will lead to the destruction of our identity. Palestine will once again be served up as a prize. Of course, any internal split, naivete, optimism, and compromising negotiations with the foreign enemy will result in the loss of one's country and people. [passage omitted]

In another section of his speech, al-Hoseyni talked about the people's participation in political and economic issues in the country and said: The people's participation in economic and political affairs and so forth is prescribed by Islam and the revolution and is one of the people's basic rights. This is necessary for any growth and must be provided.

The people's participation in political matters prevents dictatorship and corruption of power and the alienation of the people. It creates expansion, political stability, and the people's satisfaction. The people's participation in economic matters prevents the gathering of huge sums of wealth by a certain group and government supremacy. It will eradicate poverty, it will contribute to the correct distribution of wealth and income, and finally it will bring about better management of the economy. The implementation of the law dealing with cooperatives is considered to be only a small step, but the respected government must introduce the appropriate minister in accordance with the law.

He then added: Remembering the poor and the lower classes of society and paying attention to the duties that an Islamic regime has toward those people is a revolutionary necessity. Paying adequate attention to the lower classes must not remain mere slogans. Planned action must be taken to combat poverty, weakness, and oppression, within a specified time. This must be done in such a way that, after a period, the lower classes, which had a considerable role in the success of the revolution, would see a change in their lives and would play more of a role in society and culture. This is a very important human and economic aspect of growth and expansion which has been forgotten.

The deputy from Arak considered observance of Islamic codes, revolutionary and legal standards and norms to be necessary for all levels of society, especially the officials. He said: Any deviation from principles, or factionalism, showing preference to the forces from one province over another and other things which we witness, contradict fairness and justice. It is necessary to utilize deserving, dedicated, worthy, and local forces in each area. [passage omitted]

He said: The people's indifference comes as a result of official indifference to their presence on the scene. If we value the people and their presence on the economic, political, and cultural scenes, then we must accept their criticism and their vote. This will greatly help the social maturity and stability which we badly need for the revolution. The cultural confrontation of the enemy will succeed only when we are able to attract young people or provide for them a message of a better life and a brighter future.

The enemy's onslaught will succeed if, God forbid, the officials separate from the people or else if the people hate a group of officials because of their opulence. The cultural onslaught will succeed when, in the name of culture, there are seminars spending millions on poet Khajavi Kermani and the city of Esfahan. Public money is being wasted in various ways, despite the sympathetic guidance of the great leader of the revolution, and on the other hand there is inflation spiraling out of control, as you see for yourselves. The cultural onslaught will succeed when some people, knowingly or unknowingly, become less sensitive about the enemy, or become unreasonably soft toward the enemies of Islam, regarding them as deliverers.

The Reply by Gholam 'Abbas Za'eri to Comments Made by Zoi-Qadr

Following the pre-agenda speeches, Gholam 'Abbas Za'eri, deputy from Bandar 'Abbas, replied to the comments made last Wednesday by the deputy from Minab, in accordance with Article 77 of the Majles internal regulations. He said: Mr. Zoi-Qadr, from what he said, seems to think that the best way to destroy arrogance is to confirm what is wrong. He thinks by remaining silent in the face of his mistake, the enemy will die.

Mr. Zoi-Qadr, for the same reasons which prompt you to remain silent, we believe in speaking out. I ask you, with what sort of backing do you want to fight the enemy?

With what support do you want to create a dam of steel in front of the enemy? If it were not for the powerful arms of the people, what would the government do?

He added: Those who have to make this change, those who have to prepare for this change, those who have to bring about the means for these values to remain supreme, are themselves moving against the tide. The people who have to earn the satisfaction and support of the masses to keep them powerful, cause them to lose heart and to disperse. Under these these conditions, do you still want to go to war against the enemy to eradicate cruelty?

You spoke of weakening the government. You said that if someone from this faction weakens the government, he is against the legal authorities or else he is from the other faction. The people know well who supports the legal authorities. This meaning cannot be enforced with slogans; it needs pure belief.

Mr. Zol-Qadr, the government is one thing and each individual minister is another. Is it right that if a minister is criticized the whole government is weakened? From which culture did you derive this line of thought? Who made you understand things in this way? If that is the case, then the Constitution has to be changed and the Majles has to be closed down. Because this line of thought opens the doors for mistakes and for law-breaking. My support for the government of Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani has roots in my belief. There is no one who is not aware of his respected government's successes. Even those who sometimes doubt the truth admit to Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani's wisdom and power.

To support and obey the legal authorities is not an issue unique to today's world. In those hard days, when many did not know the meaning of the rule of the law, when people did not even dare to talk about it in closed rooms, we used to shout about it in classrooms. We thus sowed the seeds of love for the legal authorities into the minds of innocent young people. Those who deny this should do a little research. I am sorry that with all those claims, you have yet to understand the issue. The revolution, which everyone has accepted, is still threatened by plots hatched by its sworn enemies. Arrogance throughout the world recognizes Islam as its only enemy. How can you see its values being trampled in this way for the sake of whims? How can you make the people lose heart in this way? The departed Imam, may his passage to paradise be expedited, sent all those young people to the war fronts with one word and ordered a people to fight world heresy. Was his aim anything other than to safeguard Islam's values and to serve the people? The people are ready to welcome difficulties in order to uphold Islam, just as they have done so far.

Mr. Zol-Qadr, our point is that the people have revolted for those values which are now being destroyed by some, who are supported by you.

Do you recall the jewel-like statement of the great leader of the revolution Grand Ayatollah [title as published] Khamene'i on that historic day when he warned officials not to break ranks with the people? "Do not forget who you are. Do not lose your path and start accumulating wealth, because the fate that awaited your followers awaits you."

Mr. Zol-Qadr, humans act in accordance with their thoughts. The ideology of each nation is determined at the beginning by the rulers of their regime. If the people lose their belief in their rulers, there will be grounds for the acceptance of foreign ideology.

This is why we say it is unfair for those who cannot gain the people's trust in this holy regime, or do not know their work, to be supported. In your speech, you spoke of a wicked man who was executed. The story of his life and the news of his death is now known to all. Have you had the time to think why this evil person, whose name should not even be mentioned in the holy Majles, had all those opportunities to commit crimes against defenseless and innocent people? Are you aware what people like him are doing in the area?

Do you know that those families whose dignity has been violated by the likes of that man cry in silence in the corners of their rooms because of fear and because they have nowhere to turn? Did you know that for fear of being seen crying by others, they dry their tears once they leave their house?

I will say no more than this. Are these people not innocent? If you are supposed to act in accordance with the command of Imam 'Ali, peace be unto him and his family, which you yourself quoted, is it not right that you should defend the trampled rights of these poor people? It is the people who are innocent, not the governor general of Hormozgan Province or the interior minister. You do not know the meaning of the words. Either you do not know the meaning of cruelty or else you do not recognize the victim.

He continued: You talked about opposing eight governors general. That is incorrect and unfair. Of course, what you said were not your own words. They have said these things to you and you are simply quoting other people. During the governorship of many of them you were in Kuwait. I am not willing to name others in this issue, but as far as the issue you mentioned is concerned, you are well aware of the facts. You know very well which power-hungry element caused fear among the people and created problems with plots and group politics. Now you are turning me into a scapegoat so that you can open old wounds.

You do not expect anyone to do everything about wrong or unprincipled moves. You should know that the people of Bandar 'Abbas have the honor of never bowing down to unhealthy political currents. Each time, they have resisted in a way that has been worthy of Islam and the revolution.

Mr. Zol-Qadr, you spoke of services. You know nothing about my constituency. But in your own constituency of

Minab or the nearby areas, do you know how many villages are without running water or electricity? Do you have this information?

Za'eri continued: Are you aware that there are 3,000 trucks that pass through the center of Bandar 'Abbas each day? Do you have any idea what sorts of problems this causes for the people who live on those roads? In the last administrative meeting, the governor general said the death toll for the month of October was eight people who were run over and crushed to death in the middle of the street. Mr. Zol-Qadr, when I said people are not even safe crossing the streets, this is what I meant. How can you find an excuse for the vast difference that exists between actions in two provinces? What sort of answers do you have for your own people? Your people see the towns and villages in other provinces and see the vast differences that exist in the quality of services. Have you seen the Zang Bridge in Haji Abad? Then go and see the tunnels in Darab, just a few kilometers further north, and judge for yourself.

Mr. Zol-Qadr, when did you last visit the islands? Do you know the problems the people on Hormoz face? Have you been to the islands of Larak and Hengam? Have you seen the pale faces of the people there? Did you see how the people of Larak and Hengam are drinking putrid water that you would not even use to wash. You said 4 billion rials were spent on the islands. Which islands? Where?

Can you point to the work that has been done with this money? You should be fair.

Mr. Zol-Qadr, how long can you go on thinking on behalf of the people? How long can you laugh or frown, instead of them? We are the people's representatives and should feel their pain. We must know what they think and say what they say, want what they want. To be representatives of the people means to be with them and alongside the people as far as possible and as much as the law allows. Why should we carelessly waste the values that were achieved with the blood of the martyrs, in financial or political deals? [passage omitted]

13 Nov

PM0201180092 Tehran RESALAT in Persian 14 Nov 91 pp 5, 11

[Unattributed report: "Report on Yesterday's Open Session of the Majles"]

[Excerpts] Legislative and Parliamentary Division—The open session of the Majles was held yesterday morning, chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Karrubi.

During this session, following remarks by the deputies from Malayer, Fasa, and Dasht-e Azadegan, discussion continued on the weekly topic on the agenda.

Also during this session, two questions and one plan were ratified as follows:

The question posed by Qasem Mehrzad Sadaqiyani to the minister of defense and armed forces logistics regarding the prevention of a takeover of some urban land known as "airport land." The other question was to the minister of education regarding the delay in the start of building work on the college in Salmas.

The plan dealt with separating the town of Shahrud from the province of Semnan and joining it to the province of Khorasan.

'Abdollah Nowruzi, Malayer Deputy

Does the confiscation of the Iranian ship not indicate that the Turkish Government is a puppet in the hands of the United States?

The first-pre-agenda speaker was 'Abdollah Nowruzi, the deputy from Malayer, who said:

A friend asked me if I thought that the confrontation between the two factions in the Majles is dangerous for the regime and the revolution. I said first of all that the confrontations are not unique to the Majles, but also exist in the executive and judicial power. In the Majles it is limited to verbal exchanges and in other places it extends to replacing managers and making decisions. But because the discussion on the microphones of the Majles have to be open according to the Constitution, it is presumed that the source of the differences is the Majles. The second issue is that I myself do not recognize the factional discussions to be damaging to the revolution, up to a point. I think they will result in maturity. Even the great Imam, may his passage to paradise be expedited, confirmed that there were two factions and the majority of people in both groups are religious and great men. At difficult times, they have all stood firmly by the revolution's side. The concern is not over factions, but over the opportunists who may be hiding under the umbrella of both factions. They are the ones from complex political movements who pursue the aims and goals of their own groups. They regard the factions as ladders and use them for propaganda purposes. As soon as they achieve their aims, they will turn their backs on their colleagues. The concern is over the so-called intellectuals, who even if they are not in the pockets of the foreigners, are attracted to Western culture. If they have made a name for themselves now, it is only because of the Imam and the revolution. Now their sickness has become obvious. In an ungrateful manner, quite against the orders of the Imam, they use the Majles microphones to insist on establishing ties with the corrupt, racist, and inhuman regime of South Africa. The Imam shouted about such disgusting personalities as King Hassan, King Husayn, Saddam, Fahd of hell, and the racists of South Africa. Hassan of Morocco met and shook the hand of Peres, thereby committing a clear crime against Islam and Muslims, especially the Arab and Palestinian peoples. It is up to the Islamic people and governments to confront this criminal in a decisive way and to cut off his hands. Then there is Husayn of Jordan, who is like a traveling salesman, a dealer. He is a traitor who will not

rest until he has dropped all the regional countries into the nets of the Great Satan. Or there is Husni Mubarak, a duplicate of Anwar al-Sadat. You must shun these traitors because it is they who are playing with your fate and knowingly and unknowingly putting obstacles in the way of Islam's glory.

The United States put into the hands of Saddam, this evil snake, what he once placed in the hands of Mohammad Reza. The dignity of God's peace was broken upon orders of the "Black" House, by the filthy hands of al-Saud, the most evil criminal of our time. Our cries against heretics are the cries of the Muslims of Africa, our brothers and sisters in religion who have to suffer the whips of the wicked uncultured bullies because of their skin color.

He added: These evil creatures whose entire being is consumed by corruption, will they abandon racism and treason? Will they be worthy of friendship and will it be worth having relations with them? Even then, this was all before the major crime committed by these criminials, Madrid.

He added: If I receive permission from the guardian of Muslims' affairs, I will fight alongside the Muslims of Palestine and Lebanon against racists and Zionists.

The speaker then added: The concern is over those who have returned from foreign countries who step by step are taking over posts in the Executive management of the country. They think the people had a duty to throw out the Shah and get rid of the Iraqi invasion, but that they have a duty to become managers. They do not choose their employees from the ranks of those who fought in the war fronts, the families of the martyrs of Hezbollah elements, whether or not they have been to university. Millions are spent decorating their offices and they use private elevators. In meetings with foreign experts, they cannot help but act inferior and humble. They think the only way to cure the ills of the country is what the Western world has prescribed in their book for treatment of the Third World. Of course, they know that I do not mean to insult all, but just some who have returned from abroad.

Abdollah Nowruzi said some of the concern was due to inexperienced decision making in some policy-making organizations. He said: Does the Economic Council have a system of analyzing its past decisions? Does it still think there should not be a tariff rate for transport? Does it still think there should be hard currency in the open market and that a floating rate of exchange would cure the economic ills of the country? Is it not true that giving free installation charges for electricity and telephones for one year to villages and towns causes migration, with all its social and economic problems? Who is going to have an answer for the people?

He added: The concern is over the ideas expressed by one minister who has not thought of ways to create incentives to use the available manpower and work capability. He has not put forth ideas on how to reduce holiday time and increase work in a country that has had a revolution and a war. He does not consider the worth of small but honorable jobs. Instead, he thinks the way to combat economic problems and to earn a living is to go to Japan to do dirty work such as washing dead bodies or God forbid, becoming porters. The concern is over the onslaught of a counterculture which the great leader has also warned about many times, which we tend to ignore. If, God forbid, this is not confronted seriously, then perhaps the revolution will not pass safely into the hands of the next generation.

Nowruzi added: I do not know which organization or ministry has to have the answers. Why should we give permission for any rubbish, such as the filthy British flag or unwanted Latin words, to be printed on shirts? If they have to print something, why not our own lovely tricolor and sweet words in Persian? During the war, we wrote basic revolutionary slogans on buses and walls, but these are now arenas for advertising foreign goods.

The speaker added: If we are bound by Islamic laws, then we have to observe Islamic dress codes the way the holy Koran has specified. If not, then we should allow our girls and women to go around like dolls looking any way they wish, wearing disgusting makeup. I do not know how any of our principles accord with our current situation. Who has to answer to society on these issues?

With regard to the confiscation of the Iranian ship by Turkey he said: What has caused the Turkish Government to lose its control now, becoming a tool in the hands of the United States? Does the confiscation of the Iranian ship by the Turkish Government not indicate the Turkish Government's belittlement? How long will the Turkish people put up with this indignity?

The deputy from Malayer then warned the radio and television broadcasters, saying: The Voice and Vision belong to all people and all organizations. Unfortunately, it is clearly seen that for various reasons, the activity of one ministry is exaggerated and a major national achievement of another ministry is bypassed. Even in the Majles, it seems the person responsible has a duty to film only certain people for broadcast.

Hedayatollah Aqa'i, Fasa Deputy

Law and order in society has been and continues to be one of the major aims of the revolution.

The second pre-agenda speaker was Hedayatollah Aqa'i from the constituency of Fasa.

He said: in real terms, law and order in society has been and continues to be one of the aims of the people's movement in the revolution. When I say in real terms, it is because there are various interpretations of the rule of law. I think that one can say a society is ruled by law when the role of individuals in that society is very small. In other words, the law is something that has sprung forth from within the people that guarantees the future, movement in the correct path, and safeguards society

from individual power hungry elements. This also means that instead of people supervising the law, the law supervises everything. To reach this stage, before anything else, we must close the doors to all types of individual manifestations when writing new laws. This situation exists in a general way in the Constitution. The next step in realizing this goal is to stress the implementation of the law even though there may be a few exceptions in the transition period and during the time when society has not quite yet taken shape. Unfortunately, this important factor has not registered with a lot of people. When they come up against the smallest problem, which can be resolved in a legal way and through normal channels by spending a little time or else by using their own social credit and worth, they immediately go for the shortest route. They step over the law or else rely on values and resources such as the leader and go over the obstacle for an immediate result. We all recall that in the last few months of his life, our departed Imam announced clearly that we must all move in the direction of implementing the Constitution. He said that the permission that was given in the past was only done to resolve the problems of the war. Ignoring the law in executive matters, changing the nature of the law within the framework of directives and finally gaining permission for various things which could have been achieved through legal means, are all dangerous elements and damaging to the cause of promoting the law in society. Examples of these are the permission which was received on 8 April 1991 and the permission received to increase the floating treasury funds to the level of 500 billion rials.

He added: We must act in such a way that our children would believe that all are equal in the face of the law, that no one is above the law. We even need this principle in international economic relations to show that our law is strong and steadfast, that it does not fall victim to changes or personal decisions. Another element that damages the rule of law is the presence of organizations and economic offices that operate outside the law. The danger posed by these organs continuing their work not only softens the law but causes disruption in the movement of the huge amount of cash in circulation. This is said to be over 5,000 billion rials in our country's economy and there could be fatal blows coming from this direction.

Aqa'i then talked about the cultural issues discussed in society and said: We talk about the onslaught of foreign culture. We moan about the fact that women's clothing has changed in some sections, and we mobilize huge numbers of forces to control this. Yet we never think about the culture that we ourselves damage, or else we do not pay enough attention to it. One case is where we open the arena for the activity of capitalists and rich people. Many of our economic policies are aimed at filling the pockets of the rich and emptying those of the poor.

Relations and official ties in offices are also geared toward the rich in such a way that sometimes it is easier for the rich to establish contacts with executive officials than for people's representatives to do the same. This has caused some officials or their close relatives to go very near the dangerous pitfall of opulence and move in a direction of gathering wealth through legal or assumed partnership. I have done research into foreign purchases and I have given the results to the Majles, which were later ratified. During this research, I came across a worrying issue regarding these partnerships. I hope that these people somehow correct their past actions so that I wil not be forced to mention their names. Is it not true that the source of many of our cultural problems is our lack of attention to this matter? We have a large segment of the population who are under the most severe economic pressures, who on the other hand see the gathering of huge sums of wealth by a few. How can we expect them to seriously defend a desire-based culture and the values of the Islamic revolution?

In conclusion, Aqa'i said: During the past few days the news has been circulating among deputies that Mr. Hashemiyan, the first deputy speaker of the Majles, has been called in for questioning because of a meeting he held in Qom with sources of emulation. This issue has more than anything else upset many deputies in the Majles. They are asking why the first deputy speaker of the Majles, who is a prominent political, scientific, and revolutionary figure, is called in because of a meeting, especially since dozens of other deputies were also present at the same meeting. I ask the respected speaker of the Majles Mr. Karrubi and the leadership of the Majles to look into this issue seriously and to inform the brave people of Iran.

Jasem Jaderi, Dasht-e Azadegan Deputy

Jasem Jaderi, the deputy from Dasht-e Azadegan, used three minutes left from the time allocated to the deputy from Fasa and talked about the budget. He said: Until such time that the budget is geared toward creating industries and services in large towns, there is no hope of seeing prosperity for far-off places, to keep people in villages and to promote production in agriculture. The trend of people migrating to large towns will continue to increase.

He said: Because there are no drainage systems in the area, and because the waters of the Hamidiyeh drains flow into the Hoveyzeh region, the agricultural lands in Dasht-e Azadegan are threatened with destruction. Who is responsible for all this lack of attention?

Respected president, our people are refugees and they have suffered. They expect that their cries of help should be answered. Their houses are destroyed, their area is still closed off, the land mines have not been collected. Farm lands are about to be destroyed and the people are wandering through the towns and deserts of Khuzestan. Then there are those who have come from Iraq to Iran and they are in pitiful shape. Has anyone ever asked what has happened to the women and children in the past year?

He added: Unfortunately they have not even been treated like Afghan or Iraqi refugees. Who has to meet their needs? They have no rationing coupons, have no income and no work. Their children have missed school for two years now and there are dozens of other problems, but there is no time to mention them.

The deputy from Dasht-e Azadegan concluded his speech by saying: The Islamic republic of Iran is a regime of mercy. I hope that the great leader hears their cry and issues some orders to solve some of their problems. [passage omitted]

19 Nov

PM0301163692 Tehran RESALAT in Persian 20 Nov 91 p 5

[Excerpts] Legislative and Parliamentary Division—The Majles met in open session yesterday morning, chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Karrubi.

Mohammad Taqi Ranjbar, Some'eh-sara Deputy

Preparing the ground for dissent and rumor-mongering makes people lose heart in the movement and pleases the enemy.

The first pre-agenda speaker was Mohammad Taqi Ranjbar from Some'eh-sara constituency. [passage omitted]

He said: The people's power should be manifested through the government's laws, not through political groups and parties. Thank God there are legal and official means today for running the country's affairs in all fields. Shortcomings and shortages have to be resolved by those who implement the laws. It does not make sense that after 13 years of the glorious Islamic revolution we have a situation where people, in whatever name or within whatever group, attack an office and beat up the managing director saying that he had been reported to the appropriate minister but that the minister had refused to fire the manager. They have thus created a negative atmosphere of mistrust and insecurity in offices and have brought the government's authority into question. The departed imam once said: "Do not allow the revolution to fall into the hands of those who are not on our side." This is the meaning of this statement. Now they have gathered and they have beaten up and thrown out a manager or the head of an office who had been chosen by the officials. One of the duties of the Ministry of Intelligence is to gather correct information on the subversive activity of groups or movements and give this information to the regime. In that way the government will be able to prevent subversive activity before an event actually takes place. If God is willing, more vigilance from officials, especially attention from the respected President Hashemi-Rafsanjani, will prevent such incidents from occuring, especially since the elections for the Fourth Majles are appraoching.

He criticized the Ministry of Agriculture and the Supreme Economic Council with regard to the method of pricing large harvests of rice as well as the shortage of agricultural machinery. He stressed: The government must think of something in this connection so that the farmers are encouraged to produce, so that they do not plant unsuitable crops on their agricultural lands.

With regard to the law dealing with the ban on tobacco cultivation and smoking which was recently passed by the Majles, he said: We too agree with that portion of the law which prohibits smoking to prevent related diseases. But we are against the ban on the cultivation of tobacco because it could help put a stop to cigarettes being smuggled in, which increases the wealth of smugglers and dealers.

This law cannot prevent the use of tobacco because the government is also involved in a fight against narcotics. In no way should the fight against drugs be affected by the fight against cigarettes, and we should not use up our security forces in the fight against cigarettes.

The good thing about this law is that it makes cigarettes more expensive and harder for the user to obtain them. The negative aspect of the law is the economic factor for the government and the loss of jobs for the people, especially the producers. To turn tobacco farms into fields for other produce will bring forth many problems for the government as well as the producers.

He continued: In the national university entrance examinations this year, in one of Rasht's sectors there were some deals made by one employee who was a candidate for entry into Gilan University and the Open Islamic University. The officials in charge of the examination center and the inspectors took legal action and reported the incident to higher officials, but nothing was ever done. If this situation continues, not only will there be more cheating in the exams next year, but the whole of the examination scheme will be called into question. I ask the respected minister of culture and higher education to look into this matter and to prosecute those who have done wrong.

The deputy from Some'eh-sara commented on the lack of leisure facilities in the town, the shortage of cement and other building materials to carry out welfare projects and to rebuild the areas damaged by earthquake. He asked officials to do what is needed to overcome the problems mentioned and to meet other shortages in his constituency.

He also said: Despite the fact that in 1979 and 1980 some of the land belonging to the Sefidrud Company in Rasht was handed over to the people by the appropriate officials, today the natural resources organization and the legal department of the Sefidrud Company have received eviction orders for the land in question. The court has sentenced the farmers to flogging and monetary fines. This action has upset the oppressed and landless farmers. I seriously ask the officials to look into this matter and to revoke the eviction orders.

Hoseyn 'Ali Zia'i, Miyandoab Deputy

Those who have violated freedom in the name of defending liberty are more guilty than others in creating an unhealthy atmosphere.

Hoseyn 'Ali Zia'i from the constituency of Miyandoab, Shahindej, and Takab was the second pre-agenda speaker.

He said: Unfortunately there has been no basic and fundamental investment because of various problems and because of the imposed war and holy defense which we saw for eight years. Fortunately, this is now being done because of the action of the respected president of the Islamic Republic whose foresight and initiative are ten times more worthy and effective for dear Iran than those of the late Amir Kabir. Efforts to correct the economic structure have fortunately caused income from public sources, which pays for some government spending, to go from 49 percent in 1988 to 62 percent in 1989 and 82 percent in 1990. This means that the ratio of government income, taken as loans from the banking system, has gone from 47 percent in 1988 to 35 percent in 1989 and 15 percent in 1990. The rate of current spending has gone down from 82 percent in 1988, to 76 percent in 1989 and 68.5 percent in 1990. On the other hand, the rate of welfare spending has gone from 18 percent to 24 percent in 1989 and to 31.5 percent in 1990, which all show a general improvement in the situation. What is even more important is that all this has been done at a time when some friends of the revolution and the regime, in some cases, have not cooperated with the economic reforms by presenting constructive criticism. They could have done this by exchanging useful information in a way that could have been used for the good of the country. Instead, they leveled damaging criticism, took positions, and found faults which brought about spiritual and psychological insecurity in the people's minds as far as economic investments were concerned.

He added: During the years that I have been in the Majles as a representative of the people, I have made a lot of effort not to cause further problems in the face of speeches and discussions that created tension. What I say now is to please God and has nothing to do with any group or personal loyalty. It is not intended that my comments should hurt those dear friends who, without wanting to, cause tension and factional problems, thus helping the enemy. They are like our friend and Muslim neighbor Turkey, which has acted in coordination with our enemies in confiscating our ships.

I believe that those who have broken the boundaries of freedom in the name of liberty, have in the long term been more effective than others in creating an unhealthy atmosphere and preparing the ground for dictatorship. Will anyone agree not to carry out the advice of the departed imam—may his passage to paradise be expedited—thereby becoming bait for the political groups, only to have the bitter experiences of the past repeated? Is it not better in this Majles, where 99 percent of its deputies continue to emulate the imam, to unite in order to rebuild the country and give it powerful facilities to confront U.S. boldness? Would it not be better to give firm support to the rebuilding program and the selfless government which is safeguarding the blood of the martyrs and the disabled, so that the imam's lofty spirit would be pleased to see unity and oneness among his children? Is it not time to pay attention to the cultural onslaught and the effects of the positions taken by factions which exaggerate economic difficulties? Should we not stop strengthening our enemies? Usually it is those governments that are successful, which enjoy majority support in parliament. These are sensitive times when we have the minimum possible time to utilize our natural resources and our investments. What is more important is that we have a top scientist at the top of the executive power who is willing to give up his life and his dignity in order to provide a better future for the young people in this country. With God's help and support from the great leader he will make us self-sufficient, no longer needing foreigners. Let us come and use this unique opportunity, leaving aside all kinds of factionalism and selfishness. Let us use the unlimited power of the people to create a secure future for the Islamic homeland, which is the place of hope for all Muslims.

He stressed: It would undoubtedly be better to manage a country that is more prosperous and more self-sufficient. [passage illegible] rather than have a situation where the nation's resources have run out, without any basic investments being made. Instead of distancing ourselves from one another, we must all make an effort to recognize the international situation and our country's place in it. We must remove obstacles and create facilities for increased production and nonoil exports and we must all help one another and exchange views. We must make the best use of a healthy political atmosphere where everyone can have a hand in determining his own fate. We must invite the people to have an active role. We must not attack the respected Council of Guardians, without paying any attention to Article 98 of the Constitution, whenever we have no problems. This makes the regime's supporters lose heart. We must create a completely healthy company, using others' experiences following World War II. We must encourage the people to tolerate hardships that come about as a result of drastic economic measures.

Saleh Rowhanizadeh, Qa'em-shahr and Savadkuh Deputy

The downfall of Marxism proved that all godless regimes will one day turn to ashes as a result of the fire they themselves started.

Saleh Rohwanizadeh, the deputy from Qa'em-shahr and Savadkud, was the third pre-agenda speaker.

He gave a speech outlining the fall of Marxism. He said: We have seen the rapid downfall of a great empire which

was once an economic center in the world. In international relations this has meant that imperialism is now solely ascribed to the United States. Each day the United States sinks its bloody claws deeper into the tortured flesh of the international community, eating away at the flesh of innocent human beings like a vulture. On the other hand, the speedy downfall of Marxism proved that all Godless ideologies, which consumed the thoughts of mankind for years, will themselves one day turn to ash as a result of the very fire which they themselves started.

In any case, the disgraceful downfall of Marxism brings the message of destruction for arrogance and the raising of Islam's banner atop the world's tallest peaks.

The deputy from Qa'em-shahr and Savadkuh talked about the strong statement issued by the leader of the Islamic revolution Ayatollah Khamene'i in defense of the Palestinian people. He said: This statement was like a crashing wave in world public opinion, especially among the freedom-loving Muslim peoples. He said: We must all believe that we have to defend the first point of prayer for Muslims and the center of Islamic geography, to the very last. The enemies from East and West have so far not been able to defeat the dear Iranian people. They have clearly understood that at the top of this society is the rule of law which will destroy all their satanic wishes with one command.

Rowhanizadeh stressed: It is our duty as politicians as well as the duty of the dear people of Iran, who believe in following the line of the revolution, that we should all follow the leadership of Ayatollah Khamane'i, the embodiment of the law. Those who have strayed from the path of the legal authorities have been thrown in the trash can of history. God forbid that others should suffer the same fate.

The speaker added: Workers are the main elements in the country's economic growth. The Islamic Republic is based on justice.

He added: Unfortunately, it has been seen in some factories and workshops that managers regard themselves as totalitarian rulers, who regard the workers as part of the tools of production.

Yadollah Eslami, Baft Deputy

Yadollah Eslami, the deputy from Baft, in a short speech with regard to the Majles first deputy speaker's being asked to appear at the special clerical court said: Recently, first deputy Majles speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Mr. Hashemiyan, along with several Majles deputies, met with grand ayatollahs and sources of emulation in Qom to ask their help in connection with the issue of Palestine. Following this meeting, the respected first deputy speaker of the Majles was asked to appear at the special clerical court.

His appearance at this court has caused concern and worry and has drawn reaction from respected Majles deputies.

Foreign radios use such incidents to strike out against our national unity and to show that there are disagreements among our officials. The deputy Majles speaker was very patient and in order to prevent abuse of this issue, prepared a statement which will now be read out for the martyr-nurturing people:

Muslim and revolutionary people of Iran:

Following my appearance at the special clerical court in connection with the meeting in Qom, foreign radios and their mercenaries have tried to exaggerate the issue. They have sought to prove that there are disagreements among officials in this country, hoping that perhaps in this manner they will achieve their evil aims.

I must firmly state that the country's officials do not have the slightest disagreement with regard to safeguarding the achievements of the revolution and the regime of the Islamic Republic and confronting the enemies. All levels of management are alongside the heroic people who are always present on the scene, behind the leader, and they move together toward a bright future. They are steadfast in their holy bond and in the path for unity and the longstanding enemies of the revolution should not base their hopes on such things.

I would like to thank those brothers who have spoken or written in support of me in the past few days. I ask that they now end the discussion and dash the enemy's hopes. [passage omitted]

20 Nov

PM030116109? Tehran RESALAT in Persian 21 Nov 91 p 5

[Excerpts] Legislative and Parliamentary Division—An open session of the Majles was held yesterday morning chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Karrubi.

Hosayn Shahrudi, Shahrud Deputy

The people are aware of everything and know the right path as opposed to the wrong path.

The first pre-agenda speaker was Seyyed Hosayn Hosayni Shahrudi, from Shahrud constituency. [passage omitted]

He said: Is in fair that some executive offices, especially the Ministry of the Interior, hires and fires people—God forbid—because of personal and factional preference? Mr. Interior Minister, have you so quickly forgotten the position of our departed Imam? Hosayni Shahrudi continued by quoting the Imam, may his passage to paradise be expedited, and the advice that he gave to ministers regarding efforts to attract the people. He then addressed the interior minister and said: Is it not true that part of this historic message from the Imam has to do directly with you: "I suggest to the future ministers of interior that they should be careful when selecting governors general. They should choose worthy, religious, dedicated

people who get along with everyone so that there will be tranquillity throughout the country.

Mr. Interior Minister, it was only a few months ago that the great leader of the revolution said: "The officials must consider themselves to be servants of the people." Why did you transfer Hamadan's problems to our province by taking a strong governor general who had only served there for eight months? Instead of making up for this, you transferred a problem that has lasted for several years in Arak to Kavir Province. You put someone in charge of the people who cannot even control his own household. From the day he arrived in this province, he has brought nothing with him but pockets of unrest. From those first few days, all but one of the province's representatives have been warning you, out of sympathy and because they cared. But you ignored the sympathetic representatives of these people. Instead, you took from the people a strong and popular governor who through his three years of office did not have even one complaint, a man who is powerful and in favor of the people, for whom we would have gladly done anything, who was suggested as candidate for the Majles by some of my opposition. You took him from the people with no explanation and plunged the people into mourning. You carelessly plunged into chaos a town that had been quiet for 12 years. You ignored dozens of telegrams and suggestions from the people, the Friday prayer leader, the respected families of martyrs, the Basij [mobilization forces] volunteers, and all levels of society. Dozens of hours were spent in meetings between myself and you and the deputies, and you did not pay the slightest attention to any of these things, nor did you even give one person a reply.

Mr. Interior Minister, I saw the report that you gave the respected president on the former governor. There were many accusations against him during his time as governor in Bandar Lengeh and there were some others regarding his time in Shahrud. I must say that for those accusations in Shahrud, all of those are things that he could have been proud of, and those things written about him in Bandar Lengeh, were, according to witnesses, nothing but false accusations.

Mr. Interior Minister, even if all the accusations were true, why did the Interior Ministry, after removing him from Bandar Lengeh, instead of putting him on trial for all those violations, put him in the heart of the ministry, in the political section, especially in the most sensitive area responsible for choosing governors general and governors? Why is it that the Interior Ministry made this person, who according to the ministry itself is a traitor, the governor of Shahrud? And now, with all those accusations against him, each of which carries jail terms of several years, why has he not been put on trial? Do all these things not point to the fact that he is innocent?

Mr. Interior Minister, despite all the issues, when you decided, without any prior consultation, that you should name a new governor, in order to please God and to keep the peace, we said we were willing to accept your governor—whoever he is—and to cooperate with you. We said we would prepare the people, despite all the hard feelings that they have toward you, to accept the new governor. Instead of accepting and coordinating with the Friday prayer leader and other clerics, you filled the governor's office full of forces and with armed support you entered the town in full power and without paying any attention to the people. You saw what the people and the families of martyrs did to you. After waiting for several hours, in the end you did not manage to introduce the new governor and you had to flee from the people.

Mr. Interior Minister, did you not bring disgrace on the regime and the government with this behavior? Mr. Nuri, why did you repeat your mistake with this experience behind you? There was one mistake after another and then there was an announcement that the new governor would be introduced the following night. You canceled a previously arranged meeting with me and you did not answer my telephone calls, which were made out of concern. This is why I rushed to see the Majles speaker, who has always been kind to me. I came and asked him to call you to tell you that we were all willing to swallow our pride and give in completely to the Interior Ministry, to coordinate with you, and to prepare the people to accept the new governor. We asked to be given one day. After speaking to the Majles speaker for 15 minutes, you gave a negative reply. You came at night among the gathering of an incredible number of forces that had been placed around the governor's office, while the people had also gathered there behind the doors, in an angry mood. They went in by a secret door and in total darkness, they brought the new governor into the governor's office and then the same night, under cover of darkness, they took him out of town.

Mr. Interior Minister, with this sort of introduction, this person wants to be in charge of security in the town? Mr. Minister, with this sort of action, your employees debased the Interior Ministry. They proved their political incompetence, even in the running of a small town.

Respected president, who evokes the revolution's memory, respected representatives of the people, and minister of the interior, who I believe has religious feelings, I sound the warning signals. This movement that the Interior Ministry undertakes each day in various corners of the country, especially the childish action that it undertook in this innocent town, has assured me that suspicious elements of influence have infiltrated the ranks of the Interior Ministry. Free from any type of factional differences, they have undertaken to destroy the foundation of the revolution. If a terrorist called Kolahi killed 72 of the revolution's men, who have now been replaced by new people, these people want to kill the very roots of the revolution by separating it from the people. [passage omitted]

Mohammad Baqer Nowbakht, Rasht Deputy

Comments from the deputy from Rasht regarding the strengthening of the coastal defenses against the Caspian Sea.

Mohammad Baqer Nowbakht-Haqiqi from Rasht constituency was the second pre-agenda speaker.

He said: There is doubt that the United States is looking for excuses to put pressure on the countries opposed to the compromise at the Madrid conference, in order to make them at least ineffective. It is certain that Iran has taken the initiative of confrontation for the revolutionary forces and the freedom-fighters of Palestine and other Arabs, with active diplomacy. So it would seem logical that the United States would hate Iran more than other nations. The rumor of Iran's obtaining nuclear capability could not be unconnected to these issues.

He continued: The United States itself is considered to be a criminal power in the minds of the people because it downed the Iranian Airbus passenger plane. For a large country the size of Iran to have nuclear weapons, even if this were true, would be completely within reason, when the United States and other countries have such weapons.

Our awareness and readiness are going to be of utmost importance while these allegations are being made. This is why the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and others involved must scrutinize the enemy's movements with intelligence so that they would have an appropriate and powerful reaction. In addition to this, all political and revolutionary factions in the country must, more than ever before, create unity in their words and their actions to support the great leader. They must all seriously avoid discussions that cause dissent and concern among the people. It is not fair to the great nation or Iran that with all these issues facing them, they should also have to face psychological pressure as a result of internal differences.

He talked about the issue of the Caspian Sea's encroachment and said: The encroachment of the Caspian Sea with its hydrodynamic and hydrostatic effects continues to cause damage.

A. The hydrodynamic damage: This damage is caused by the direct contact of the waves with the coastline, including the erosion and destruction of structures. So far in Gilan Province alone, there has been the following economic damage:

1. Destruction of 4,000 urban dwellings.
2. Destruction of 50 centers of learning.
3. Destruction of 20 offices, including government property.
4. Destruction of 20 civil structures.
5. Destruction of 1,500 village dwellings.
6. Threat to 40 coastal villages.

B. Hydrostatic damage: This is the damage caused by the rising levels of underground water, agricultural land's becoming salty, problems in sewer drainage and drainage of other surface water, and negative effects on the ongoing construction projects along the coastline. So far, in seven towns some 450 hectares of urban land has been damaged.

He added: In the agricultural sector, so far some 2,500 hectares of rice paddies have been ruined because of saltwater absorption and at least 500 hectares have been completely destroyed, as far as profitability is concerned.

What has increased the worry and concern of the people who live on the coast and the factor that increases the responsibility of the Majles and government, is the increasing rate of damage caused by the encroachment of the sea.

According to expert views based on various studies, using the figures and facts from the neighboring country, during the last 15 years, within periods of 10 to 12 years, the waters of the Caspian Sea have risen or fallen by 70 cm. In the last 80 years the changes in the Caspian Sea have reached 2.5 meters. Right now we are in a period of expansion and the water level is rising, encroaching on the shore. According to the experts' experience, the level of the water on the southern shores of the Caspian Sea will reach figures of -25 [as published]. This means in the future we will witness further widespread destruction of structures and land in the coastal regions. With the methods so far in use it is impossible to prevent this trend. From now on, the officials will have two possible courses.

1. Using the current method, funds are allocated on short notice and since these will not be enough, gradually the people will leave their homes in order to be far enough from the sea. In that case, we would have no choice but to allocate more funds to build towns and homes for them. Bearing in mind the fact that land is limited in Gilan Province, and considering other social aspects, this migration will not be practical.

2. We can do what other countries in similar situations have done and strengthen our coastlines and prepare for critical times.

With regard to the towns on the shores of the Caspian Sea we can raise all structures, without moving them from their locations, up to the figure of -25. In this regard the governor general's office and the Gilan Province plan and budget organization have received cooperation from other executive bodies and have used expert advice from all over the country as well as international research. They have managed to come up with a three-year plan in 16 chapters, down to the smallest project details, which is ready to be implemented. The entire budget for this fundamental plan, which will make the coastline permanently safe against the encroachment of water is 94.5813 billion rials. The project breakdown considers the available facilities in the province and requires for 1992 the sum of 42.7803 billion for 1993 the sum of 31.78505 billion, and for 1994 the sum of 20.01595 billion rials. It is suggested that in these years, the funds be mentioned

as a separate entity in footnote six of the budget. Otherwise, we will have no choice but to react to compensate the damage caused to the people and be forced to spend money there while at the same time we would see the people becoming refugees, with all the negative implications of that.

He added: Keeping in mind that the hard currency credits for the import of building materials are provided out of $250 million set aside by the World Bank, unfortunately this figure has not yet been provided. The people, especially those trying to rebuild their homes, face serious shortages and their increasing demands raise the price of building materials. The considerable shortage in building materials, especially cement, is a real problem. This is why I sincerely ask the appropriate ministries to import the necessary building materials, thereby helping the people who have already suffered losses.

Mohammad Reza Shafi'i, Fuman Deputy

The least the Basij men expect is that the laws passed for them by the Majles be implemented.

Mohammad Reza Shafi'i, deputy from Fuman and the village of Shaft, spoke as the last pre-agenda speaker. [passage omitted]

He continued his remarks by speaking about the Madrid conference, Spain, its history, and the presence of Islam in Spain. He said: In Spain today we see the Madrid conference, which is increasing the dignity of Israel and degrading the Islamic nations. This fact has a message and the message is what the enemies of Islam want to make us understand. They want to say, this was your land. Because of your differences, it fell into our hands and you were defeated there. From this place of defeat, we will inflict another defeat on you, to make you feel even more degraded. If you do not believe this, look at Spain.

Shafi'i added: At this sensitive time in Islam's history, all Islamic leaders and especially Muslim peoples must be aware, awake, and careful to ensure that the United States, that monster of colonialism, does not achieve its aims. This will not be possible without the unity of all Muslims in the struggle against the United States.

In connection with Basij Week, he said: November is the month of the brave crusader Basij men. These Basij men showed their power during the eight years of the imposed war when they brought the enemy to his knees. They are soldiers with no name who fought with no salary, and they did not have their eye on any position or post and they sacrificed everything. They gave their blood and they fought so that they could keep alive the memory of the Muslims at the beginning of Islam.

The speaker stressed: It is our duty and also the duty of all officials to strengthen these dear ones. There must be an effort to meet their needs. The least that these dear people expect is that the laws Majles has passed for them be implemented in the best possible way throughout the country.

The deputy from Fuman continued by praising the government's policy regarding the unilateral release of a group of Iraqi POW's. He asked the UN Secretary General to make a further effort to release the remaining Iranian POW's in Iraq.

In conclusion, he talked about the giving of loans to earthquake victims which is the main problem in his constituency and added: Since the cold season is starting, the people expect their loans to be paid out as soon as possible so that they can prepare shelter for themselves. [passage omitted]

*** 27 Nov**

92AS0414A Tehran RESALAT in Persian
28 Nov 91 p 5

[Report on Yesterday's Open Session of the Majles]

[Excerpt] **Legislative and Parliamentary Division—The open session of the Majles was held yesterday morning with Hojjat ol-Eslam Karrubi presiding.**

Ahmad Nateq-Nuri, the Representative From Nur and Mahmudabad

To prevent improper veiling, it is necessary to develop the Islamic culture and offer an ideal model of Muslim women.

The first pre-agenda speaker was Ahmad Nateq-Nuri, from the Nur and Mahmudabad district.

He honored mobilization week and, referring to the Tuesday assembly of the mobilization forces of Tehran in front of the Majles, he said: These pigeons of the sanctuary of love came to the door of the house of the nation to say to all the people, especially their representatives, "We accept and shall forever follow the path of the beloved Imam steadfastly and loyally in obeying the leadership." They came and announced, "Some people might want to isolate us and make us indifferent, but we shall stand to the end for the sacred ideals of Islam and have not forgotten the recommendation of our late Imam in the last years of his life." They came to say, "We are here so that the revolution will not fall into the wrong hands."

In continuation, he requested that the judicial branch punish the outlaws who have caused the martyrdom of several of the mobilization forces in Tehran and reminded the executive and judicial officials about dealing with factions of corruption and preventing such violations as improper veiling, which are clear examples of Western culture.

Referring to the speech of the leader on the birthday of Imam Mohammad Baqer, he said: Brothers and sisters, when the enemy comes to battle with military weapons

he can make no progress, because neither he, nor his weapons and crimes can be hidden from any scholar or layman, nor his hostility hidden from anyone. But when he changes his weapons and comes to the field with the cultural weapon, the task is difficult, because neither his forces nor his attack are open, neither his filthy intentions nor his victims are clear.

If we imagine the Islamic revolution to be like a great system, the output of the system requires both protection and attention, care and delicacy. It is here that it is mandatory for all officials, particularly the cultural and propaganda officials, to be mobilized against the cultural invasion of global oppression with all their might. The Ministry of Guidance, the propaganda agency, the great clerics, the seminaries, the Voice and Vision, and all the newspapers and magazines must join hands, and utilizing the talents of the youth in cleansing the society neutralize all the plans of the enemy. To prevent improper veiling, we are in urgent need of developing the Islamic culture, offering an ideal model of Islamic women, establishing a roundtable at the television offices of the Islamic Republic, and clarifying Islamic veiling for girls in the society. The control of movies and the care in the selection of songs and supervision over music in the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic, which sometimes lead to misteaching the younger generation, are necessary.

He also thanked the government for the significant advances in the production and industries sector of the five-year plan and, referring to the advances of two important petrochemical projects and the seventh Arak refinery, expressed hope that in Bahman 1371 [21 January-19 February 1993] the petrochemical project will be completed and will offer its first product, "polyethylene," to the industries market.

He also reminded the government to once in a while explain to the people its investment and industrial programs.

In continuation, Ahmad Nateq-Nuri referred to the new customs regulation on the basis of which goods carried by passengers are evaluated based on competitive foreign currency. He considered that this issue would likely result in protests by passengers and in double inflation and asked the Ministry of Finance and customs [office] to reconsider.

In another part of his speech, the representative from Nur and Mahmudabad pointed to the favorable grounds and existing potential in Mazandaran Province for growth and self-sufficiency in terms of the country's agricultural sector and recommended further investments in that province.

He requested that the minister of commerce allow the rice farmers of Mazadaran Province to establish production cooperatives to enable them to export their rice to other countries.

Nateq-Nuri issued reminders to the minister of agriculture about providing agricultural machinery to the natural resources agency, about the implementation of the forest dwelling law and observing the restrictions on it by forest dwellers, and to the Ministry of Energy about eliminating the agricultural water problems in Mahmudabad and Chamestan of Nur. He also thanked the employees of various Majles divisions.

He added: I thank all the reporters, journalists, photographers, and cameramen of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic, who are at the service of the Majles and are sometimes the target of protests by some of the brothers. It is proper to pay particular attention to these dear brothers.

Seyyed Reza Akrami, the Representative From Semnan

Seyyed Reza Akrami, from Semnan, was the second pre-agenda speaker. He honored the anniversary of the establishment of the mobilization of the oppressed, emphasizing the necessity that the men, women, and young people in the country be alert and present in a mobilized form on all scenes, particularly in the Islamic revolution and regime, and also be active on the scene of construction, work and production, and he added: No indifference or isolationism is worthy of a Muslim and a mobilized revolutionary human being. Today, everywhere in the country construction and reconstruction are being carried out, and the whole world, particularly the oppressed in the world, are watching Islamic Iran. Everyone must be present on the construction scene with ideas, education, learning from and making use of the beneficial experiences of others, sincerity, cooperation, work, and persistent effort.

He continued: The Majles is the center of legislation and supervision over the implementation of laws. Every issue, from speeches, devising laws, questions, research, and interpretation of the smallest issue, must be implemented within the framework of the Constitution and the ratifications of the Majles. But sometimes, most unfortunately and not in keeping with the dignity of the Majles, hostile speeches, opinions, and actions and disrespect, accusations, hostility, and quarrels indicate insufficient attention being paid to the reminders of the Imam and the grand leader. Did the Infallible Imam not say, "The consequence of insulting one of the faithful, even with one word, will be to provoke the wrath of God?" What do justice, fairness and the law dictate? If a speaker makes statements that are improper in a session or from a podium or such things are published in a newspaper in the form of statements or essays, should the response be given through the law that applies to the press in the same session or from the legislation podium, which has thousands of listeners and is official and fed by the treasury?

All of us must act and speak within the framework of our oath in the Majles and benefit from proper questioning, research, and investigation methods rather than

reproaching one another and using words that we should be using against our enemies and not our own people.

Dear representatives, the third legislative session is about to come to an end. I do not know how we have acted in terms of the last will and testament of our late Imam, the reminders of the honorable leader and the Constitution.

In another part of his speech, he recommended to the representatives that they visit the development projects of the country and the production factories and farms at any proper opportunity, because such visits will both increase the awareness of the representatives of what exists in the country and give assurance to the implementors. In addition, they will be able to see the problems first hand and take legislative steps to eliminate them.

He added: By the grace of God, all the country's production wheels are turning, and the production statistics from wheat to industrial goods are increasing, but still they are not working at full capacity and keeping up with the needs. If the slogans, ideas, and deeds are geared toward production and we reduce parallel tasks, increase quality and supervision, and fully cooperate, the situation will be much improved.

In the same connection, he thanked the president and his colleagues for starting the wheels of production in the country.

Akrami referred to the geographical specifications of Semnan Province and the existing potential in that province and invited those interested in work and production, especially in the area of mines and industries, to invest in that province.

In another part of his speech, the speaker said: The occupying regime of Jerusalem, which has used force and terrorism to be the lone rider in the region, must know that there have been many more powerful regimes throughout history which have been destroyed as the result of their treachery. The Soviet superpower is a case in point in our own age. In the near future, we shall witness the crumbling of the Western superpower, in which we see in the young generation corruption, fraud, and lack of interest in education and work in the United States, on the one hand, and alertness and fighting injustice by the people of the world on the other.

All the Muslims of the world, especially the Muslims in the region and the oppressed and the downtrodden, must begin to work unitedly against this cancerous cyst, expose this center of corruption and help the intifadah uprising.

Elyas Hazrati, the Representative From Rasht

Elyas Hazrati, the representative of Rasht, was the last pre-agenda speaker. He said: The rule over the country of mobilization thought, ideas, and culture is the only thing the Imam considered a safeguard for the victory of the regime and the advancement and development of the Islamic revolution, resulting in the despair and disappointment of global oppression. He particularly emphasized its establishment and strengthening, and was proud to be a member of it. From the decrees and directives of that true mobilization member, this truth appears: that mobilization is not only for the time of war, but it is an idea and ideology which stems from the treasures and knowledge of God's friends and it is an organized and overall collection that involves all dimensions of individual and social life.

He added: The able mobilization members, who are no strangers to pain, following the last will and testament of their Imam and the emphatic instructions of their leader, as in the past, carry out their duty on various scenes with insight and a point of view that stems from that of the Imam, his line, and religious guardianship, with full sensitivity. If they have a request, it is not materialistic, even if they are uncomfortable financially and without jobs. Rather, they request the precise implementation and full governance of the mobilization ideas and thoughts, which are the ideas of the Imam, the ideas of pure Islam. If they have a request, it is not a request for a position, even though they are more competent, capable, experienced, and successful in carrying out the responsibilities. Rather, they request observance of Islamic values by the officials and administration.

He emphasized: If they protest and make a complaint, it by no means concerns the lack of attention to them in the offices. Rather, their protest concerns the cultural, economic, and political disarray within the society, which they witness every day such as weddings, parties, and traveling about in such cars in the cities, while the situation of improper veiling is becoming worse and more deadly every day.

The representative of Rasht added: They emulate the Imam and will continue to do so. They consider the ideas of the Imam the only way to save the country, the regime, the revolution, and the Islamic nations and insist on belief in all the economic, political, domestic, and foreign dimensions. They believe strongly in the solid principle of the guardianship of the religious jurisconsult and consider unquestioning obedience to the instructions of the religious guardian as an inseparable part of pure Islam.

Elyas Hazrati said: They insist on the policy of neither East nor West and believe only those who are not frightened and reactionary with regard to the global scene, but who act from an aggressive stance and have revolutionary enthusiasm can carry out this policy.

He added: I remind some of the organizations that unfortunately they do not treat these dear ones properly and do not even implement these ratified laws.

The representative from Rasht stated before the Supreme Council of Banks with regard to calculating the presence of the mobilization forces on the front as part of their service history and with regard to employment and

housing for the mobilization forces: This can be done by assigning the mission of reconstruction to the Guard Corps and the mobilization [forces] so that they can have a share in reconstruction and be able to provide employment for the mobilization forces and make rapid progress in reconstruction.

He said: As an emulator of the Imam, one who remains steadfast in following him, I have a brotherly recommendation to all the mobilization friends. You, too, by being an emulator of the Imam and following the leader, must guard and perpetuate the line of the Imam.

As regards the behavior of the political factions toward one another, Elyas Hazrati said: While the principle of the existence of various factions and opinions cannot be criticized and must be considered a value and an embellishment of our regime, of course, on examining and viewing the issues, especially merely from the factional viewpoints, there are some ill effects. For example, attacking the minister of interior, Mr. Nuri, it is thought of as strengthening the government from a factional point of view, whereas criticizing the work of, for instance, the minister of education, is considered conspiracy against the government. Strong attacks and creating a climate and obstacles in regard to the programs of the Tehran mayor is considered as strengthening the government, whereas criticizing or questioning a minister or another institution is regarded as conspiracy and weakening the government.

Creating a climate of opposition to the Majles, which is one of the three branches of the country, and creating a climate of skepticism with regard to the speaker of the Majles are considered religious duties, while strengthening the regime and saving the revolution and criticizing, for example, the judicial or the executive branches are considered disruptive and creating obstacles.

Creating a climate of opposition to the minister of Islamic guidance is announced as strengthening Islam, the regime, and the government, whereas questioning one minister or giving a reminder to another minister is regarded as weakening the regime and the government or vice versa. We must look at the roots of these contradictions. Certainly one of the causes of these contradictions is looking at the issues merely from a factional point of view. It is from this angle that thousands of advantages of the existing factions, including [as published—original text is incomplete]

With respect to the disadvantages of this problem, the representative of Rasht said: Lack of interest in unity, interest in posing and following up domestic rather than foreign and Islamic world issues, seeing the interests of the faction in place of the interests of the whole regime, being weak in our ability to tolerate one another and not thinking about Islam becoming global and about the global mission of Islam are among the disadvantages.

He said: In a chaotic world in which every day the United States, as the Great Sly Satan, is present in the region, becomes more mobilized to dominate the world, conquers the trenches and countries one after another and makes them compromise and yield, destroys the liberation movements one after another with all its military weapons, creates conspiracies and a climate of opposition to us and our regime at every turn and prepares the world to make us appear submissive, unfortunately, with each passing day we are dealing with domestic issues more than we did the day before.

The representative from Rasht made it explicit: It seems that the statement of the Imam in the charter of brotherhood and the directives of the grand leader some time ago are an ultimatum, so that in defending the true path of the revolution and having a global outlook we are able to avoid the disadvantages regarding the factions and more than ever before preparing the grounds for the presence and utilization of all existing capabilities, competence, and experience.

Elyas Hazrati added: With the internal conflicts there will appear movements whose motto is to negate both factions and condemn all the opinions of the revolutionary forces. This movement is, of course, for the most part alien to the Islamic revolution and pure Islam and at any opportunity will try to sever the roots of the forces of both factions. Externally, as well, it will take maximum advantage of these conflicts.

In regard to the problem of his constituency, the representative of Rasht referred to the problem of earthquakes in the Gilan Province and said: Despite the efforts and hard work of the honorable and compassionate regime officials, and from the very first days of this tragedy these activities have been mostly round-the-clock and mobilized in form, because of the depth and breadth of this tragedy, many problems remain, of which, of course, weak planning, lethargy, and negligence in following them up on the part of some of the organizations have remained unresolved.

The kind and form of the structures of villages is one of the most important existing problems of the earthquake-stricken region.

In conclusion, Elyas Hazrati referred to the shortage of construction materials, including cement, and explained the agricultural problem, which is one of the most important problems of the people in Gilan Province, and requested the attention of the officials in this regard. [passage omitted on ratifications]

* 8 Dec

92AS0415A Tehran RESALAT in Persian 9 Dec 91 p 5

[Excerpts] Legislative and Parliamentary Division—The Majles met in open session yesterday morning chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Karrubi.

RESALAT's parliamentary correspondent reports that the only item on the agenda at this session was continued consideration of the Bill to Form the Teacher Training

and Manpower Procurement Organization in the Ministry of Education and Training. After discussion and consideration, the general form of the bill was put to a vote but was not passed.

The Majles will meet in public session tomorrow.

Esma'ili Ferdowsipur, Deputy From Mashhad

It will be possible to stand up against the West's cultural invasion by preserving the revolutionary spirit.

The first pre-agenda speaker was Esma'ili Ferdowsipur, the deputy from Mashhad. He said: Fatimeh Zahra (peace be upon her) was the model of a perfect girl, a perfect woman, and a perfect mother. She was the one who taught fighting oppression and defense of the imam of her time to her children and followers, and the great leader of the Islamic revolution, following his noble mother, revitalized the vice-regency of the chief jurisconsult and brought about this great change, and it is now incumbent upon us followers of the late Imam's line (peace be upon him) to preserve our revolutionary spirit and identity, and stand like a great dam against the trite culture of the West. The reason there is talk everywhere today of foreign cultural invasion is that our revolutionary and aggressive identity has weakened and we are fighting each other over ideologies and factions. The way out of this passive attitude towards trite culture is to return to revolutionary identity and retain the principles and fundamentals of our late Imam, the Great Khomeyni (peace be upon him), to return to unity and to cling to the firm anchor of God, who said "take refuge in the anchor of God together, not separately" [quoting the Koran]. Continuing, he offered congratulations on 16 Azar [7 December] to the students. He said: I deem it necessary, following the great lady of Islam, to defend an oppressed individual. Dr. Seyyed Mohammad Tabataba'i, a neurosurgeon and the respected president of Martyr Beheshti University, who in the year 1360 [21 March 1981-20 March 1982] was my doctor and was also among those injured in the terrifying incident at the Central Office of the Islamic Republican Party and the imposed war. He was a believing, committed Muslim, loyal to the Islamic revolution and a lover of our late Imam, and at the same time when the blind-hearted hypocrites were assassinating and bombing, he was not only with them, but against them also, and showed great concern and outstanding activity in treating the injured, the wounded, and the maimed of the Islamic revolution.

He then discussed the geographical situation and the importance of Khorasan Province in the country.

He expressed the hope that on the sensitive and historic trip the respected president of the republic of the Islamic Republic of Iran is taking for the first time to attend the conference of leaders of Islamic nations, he will be able to take big strides toward revitalizing the Islam of Mohammad (peace be upon him), helping the intifadah, and destroying Israel and Zionism.

He added: On its study of the budget, I ask the Plan and Budget Commission to take note of the breadth and size, the population, and the problems in Khorasan Province, and, when drafting the budget, to take the necessary steps to increase the credits in Notes 38 and 6, which will solve the problems in the deprived areas. Likewise, I also ask the commission to allocate separately to the National Deprived Areas Affairs Office the foreign exchange needed to create productive employment, electrical power service, and other development activities in the deprived districts and villages.

Mr. Ferdowsipur also emphasized: The shortages of classroom space, academic and administrative faculty, experts, and dormitory space at Ferdowsi University at Mashhad are pronounced. The university's existing resources only provide 50 percent of the needs of students at this university, and yet by the end of the Five-Year Plan 930 faculty members must be recruited at the university. A billion rials are needed to solve the treatment problems.

In conclusion, he directed the Majles speaker's attention to his promise to visit Mashhad and the Falakeh Outskirts Project, and to set aside a line in the foreign exchange and rial budget for the holy province of Emam Reza's tomb, and he called upon the Plan and Budget Organization and the members of the commission not to cut back on their budget allocations for Emam Reza's holy province, because according to the president of the republic, the holy province needs the government's help to carry out its projects.

He also emphasized: I am opposed to dividing and mutilating this historic province, and the people are not willing to be separated from the city of Emam Reza. I ask the respected interior minister not to start a disturbance in the area, especially on the eve of the elections, and not to disrupt the peace.

Yusef Basanjideh, Deputy From Kordkuy va Bandar Torkman

It is incumbent upon everyone to preserve the dignity and sanctity of the three branches of government and the respected Council of Guardians.

Yusef Basanjideh, Kordkuy va Bandar Torkoman deputy, was the second pre-agenda speaker.

He said: Following the defeat of the Eastern camp, the unilateral parading of world-devouring America, the imposition of the new world order and the legitimation of the crimes of the usurper Jerusalem regime and consequently the sacrifice of the aspirations of the oppressed Palestinians and Muslims of the world, it is incumbent upon the alert consciences of the people of the world, especially in Islamic Iran, to deal seriously with this evil plot.

With the changes in our neighbor country to the north, a wave of Islamic fervor has swept the Muslim republics, thanks to their historic and geographic background,

where in the not-so-distant past they were part of the Islamic homeland. With the mobilization of committed forces to the Islamic homeland, close relations will be established with them and a positive answer will be given to the long-standing hopes of Muslims who are thirsty for Islamic culture.

He added: While the embargo of the atheist and imperialist world becomes tighter every day, it is necessary that we concern ourselves with the strengthening of our Islamic government, and that we give serious attention to the implementation of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Five-year Plan, which was approved by this very Majles, by the beloved and skilled president of the republic and the Islamic revolution, and that we pave the way for the toiling government's successful economic policies to rebuild the Islamic homeland.

He added: It is incumbent upon everyone to preserve the dignity and sanctity of the three branches of government and the respected Council of Guardians.

In conclusion, he criticized the hiring of officials in some offices in his electoral district with less than a high school education and insufficient experience. He said: The failure to employ committed and specialist manpower in the area in the municipality's executive affairs, despite having a population of more than 12,000, has no justification. For many long years now, every year, hundreds of Muslim youth from this area have entered the universities, and have graduated in the same numbers. It appears that the administrative offices in this municipality are testing or training sites for beginning officials. The Bandar Torkoman cities, which have a most ideal urban structure, rather than advanced like the other cities of Iran, have fallen at least 20 years further behind, and the effects of poverty and the failure to develop are evident in these cities.

In conclusion, the Kordkuy va Bandar Torkoman deputy issued memos aimed at alleviating the existing deprivations and problems in his electoral district.

Seyyed Motahar Kazemi, Deputy From Khalkhal

Today in the Majles, someone could follow the path of Modarres to obey even the passing remarks of the leader.

The third pre-agenda speaker was Seyyed Motahar Kazemi, Khalkhal deputy. In a short talk, he discussed the president of the republic's trip to Senegal to attend the conference of leaders of Islamic nations. He said: I hope that the prayers of the entire Muslim world will be with him on his way, and it is expected of the respected president of the republic that in his speech to the assembly he will show the proper path and the spirit of the Islam of Mohammad to the lifeless and soulless body of this conference, just as the leader of the Islamic revolution did when he was president of the republic in his address to the United Nations.

The speaker discussed the anniversary of the martyrdom of Ayatollah Modarres. He said: Wherever the Majles is discussed, the luminous, heroic, and brave visage of Ayatollah Modarres is evoked. Everyone wants the Majles deputies to be like Modarres, but one must note that the late Ayatollah Modarres stood against an oppressive, antipopulist, and un-Islamic government.

He continued by saying: Today however, the exalted leader and the respected president of the republic are themselves the Modarreses of the time, and they themselves have brought the nation together like a firm foundation against world imperialism and the great satans to uproot the roots and foundations of imperialism and put into power the Koran and Islam in the world.

Today in the Majles, someone could follow the path of Modarres, and on that path he could know that on the path of Modarres he was obeying even the passing remarks of the leader, simply and with all his being and soul. Today Modarres is someone who in the nation's very sensitive moments, which were even more sensitive than during the war, was the powerful arm of the government with the capability and competence of Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, who was validated by both leaders, both the great leader of the Islamic revolution and the leader of the Islamic revolution, His Holiness Ayatollah Khamene'i.

The speaker emphasized: It is our duty today, more than at any other time in the past, to support this government, at a time when it is putting the nation's ailing and paralyzed economy in order, since as a result of the imposed war a great part of the country's backbone was severely damaged and reconstruction and building the nation's infrastructure is one of the most important responsibilities.

Concerning criticism, he said: Constructive criticism such as guarding and preserving Islamic values and preserving the forces following the leader's line and that of the vice regency of the chief jurisconsult are not limited to today, and has been and is important to us all the time.

The Khalkhal deputy went on to praise the president of the republic's trip to East Azarbayjan Province and Khalkhal. He said: Since he has shown favor to the people of Khalkhal and has pointed to the high talent, pervasive intelligence, and the very rich potential of the area and promised to solve the basic and infrastructural problems in the region, which is at the heart of three important and large provinces such as Azarbayjan, Zanjan, and Gilan, in order to expedite the construction of connecting roads and capture waters and rivers and start up the high university and strengthen the cultural and artistic foundation and create large industries such as cement and neoprene, and other important and basic industries for the people of the area, I thank him for the hope that is seen in the hearts of our deprived people.

In conclusion, he asked the Council of Ministers to take seriously the orders from the president of the republic, and to implement them.

Abol-Hasan Ha'erizadadeh, Deputy From Birjand va Nahbandan

The taxation system is quite wrong and must be reformed.

The final pre-agenda speaker was Abol-Hasan Ha'erizadadeh, Birjand va Nahbandan deputy. He said: The very great blessing we have from Islam, which is intensified and strengthened by the great Islamic revolution of Iran, is spirituality, chastity, and piety, which is the stuff of goodness, blessings, and pride in many Muslim homes in Iran. The new and coming generations are in great need of that, and this piety of our Islamic society guarantees the training of the new generation.

Ha'erizadeh added: The backs of many of the weak classes of society are bent with vast anxieties, and the taxation system is quite wrong. Suitable taxes cannot be collected from asses and thugs. The tax pressure is on society's middle and weak classes, and worse is that through lack of price controls, the tax pressures have been and are being transferred directly to society's weak and low-income classes.

Inattention to Islamic justice is the root of many social corruptions, and all the low-income and weak people in society, who make up a great class, are struggling under crushing pressures.

Ha'erizadeh emphasized: Prices must be rigorously controlled and supervised. Taxes must be transferred away from the low-income and weak classes in society and transferred to the well-off and high-income classes, and tomorrow will be too late.

For this reason, Western capitalism is against God, and against Islamic justice, for money has power and there are esteemed personalities in our society, and there is a very good level of wisdom and piety compared to other governments.

He said: In this sacred Islamic government that we have, we must fight with all our power against the rule of capital and money, because the rule of capital, capitalists, and hoarders of excess is very dangerous to the nation's economy.

The banks are also a great economic power, and they must be put in service of the public through the spread of cooperatives. Now the banks are mostly in the service of the service sectors, the rich people and the hoarders of excess.

Concerning the cooperatives, the speaker said: The cooperatives in the country must have a custodian, and with the spread of cooperatives, some of the wealth will be divided, and it will help some in adjusting the wealth.

Why is there indifference and disinterest in presenting the minister of cooperatives? A minister must be presented as soon as possible; one who believes in cooperatives, who understands cooperatives, and who loves cooperatives in the service of the Islamic nation. The banks take in a high percentage of the nation's economic essence, and they do not fulfill their main role in production. The biggest part of the activities of the nation's banks must be used directly for production, and anything else is economic corruption.

A quick look at the streets will show you that many large buildings are in the service of the banks, and this is expanding every day. The great public investment in the banks must be used solely in the service of production, agricultural production, livestock, mining, and essential industrial production, and not in the service of great buildings which are ancillary products. Although it is better than brokerage and commerce, which are such wrong procedures.

He said: This shows the course of the bank investments and what their goals are like. Investment must not be the main thing and the goal. The direction must be purely production.

Elsewhere in his talk, the Birjand deputy said: The Free Islamic University and some of the commercial schools are mostly and practically institutions serving the wealthy, and they serve whoever has the most money. The small percentage of people who are there carry a heavy burden with hundreds of heartaches and misfortunes. The Free Islamic University spreads everwhere unregulated; it does not have appropriate resources such as professors, and it does not conform to the standards of higher education.

Ha'erizadeh added: The Free Islamic University spreads like a cancer without supervision from higher education, and its programs and credentials are not validated by competent officials. This obstinancy in the nation's higher education has created many problems, and it has also damaged the credibility and value of its own graduates. Concerning 16 Azar [7 December], Student Day, the speaker said: A great part of our students are keeping silent. Why? Let us look for the reasons why the students speak little or not at all. I am not talking about those who speak according to patterns and agendas. I am not talking about those who speak the language of the bazaar in the universities; at the university, one must speak the language of the university, not the language of the bazaar. When it is like that, someone has come off the farm and is talking in the university environment.

Today, our students believe in the government and the leader, and they really love the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, but some elements use force and pressure, and some gangs with power and money want to make a university out of their arcades and walls.

He said: It is still too early for what some people are saying, that the students following the Imam's line have all been martyred. All students follow the Imam's line, and some people want to call all of them political martyrs.

When the struggle against force and hypocrisy intensifies, and the circumstances are right, most of the students will speak and the seminary and university students are among the most valuable classes of society, now and in the future.

The Birjand deputy added: The intellectuals of society, the educated and otherwise, must work seriously to practice enjoining the good and prohibiting evil in the broad meaning of the term. Today, it is a social obligation for every student, every middle school teacher, every seminary student, every religious scholar, every teacher, and every university student to spend one day of the week and at least one day and night of the week intellectualizing about public ideas. With those same Islamic, Koranic, and social teachings which are fighting force and hypocrisy, the encounter of ideas, intellectual and social freedoms, awareness and culture are quite necessary for society.

He discussed the interpretation of Article 99 of the Constitution by the Council of Guardians. He said: In its interpretation of Article 99 of the Constitution, the respected Council of Guardians has implemented some ideas. Public opinion must express its view, and the debate on this matter will promote public awareness.

The most important issue in the modern political history of Iran is before us. If, as in the case of the Assembly of Experts, one faction is simply to move ahead while the rest are dragged along, this is a great danger.

In the elections for the Fourth Majles, if the respected Council of Guardians exceeds its limits and exercises supervision, it has made an error and committed an act of oppression. This is outside the bounds of the Constitution, and later the entire Majles and then the whole government will be serving one special faction and dragging along the rest. This is a great danger for the government and it will cause the people to withdraw. Let us all return to the law, as ordered by His Holiness the Imam.

The Majles Speaker's Remarks

In his short pre-agenda speech, Mr. Karrubi offered condolences on the passing of the father of Mrs. Raja'i. He said: Sister Raja'i is one of the esteemed ladies of the society of the Islamic Republic, and the wife of the great martyr Raja'i. She was with her noble husband through all the trials, suffering, and struggle. During his prison days she saw him tortured, and then she saw him martyred. [Commentary section omitted]

* 10 Dec

92AS0416A Tehran RESALAT in Persian
11 Dec 91 p 5

[Excerpts] Legislative and Parliamentary Division—The Majles met in open session yesterday morning chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Karrubi.

At this session, after readings of verses from the Glorious Koran, a eulogist from the house of 'Esmat (peace be upon him), in reciting the suffering of the chaste friend Her Holiness Zahra (peace be upon her), presented a eulogy.

Najafqoli Habibi, Deputy From Tehran

If we do not attend to issues in the university as one of the nation's important issues, we will face serious problems trying to achieve the aspirations of the revolution.

The first pre-agenda speaker was Najafqoli Habibi, the deputy from Tehran. He offered condolences to the nation of Islam and the exalted leader on the anniversary of the martyrdom of Her Holiness Fatimeh Zahra (peace be upon her). He expressed the hope that the women of Islamic society and especially the wives of officials and insiders in the nation's affairs, by making a model of that holy woman through presenting a desirable example of the role and position of woman in the home and society, would succeed in preserving the sanctity of chastity, veiling, simple living, and avoiding ostentation and inclinations to glitter and glamor, being active in public affairs, and in making individual and group effort to achieve the disposition, ways, and path of that holy woman, and that they will not permit reports that sometimes are heard about their private gatherings from becoming reality.

He discussed 16 Azar [7 November], Student Day and 27 Azar [18 December], Clerical Unity Day. He said: The seminaries and the universities are among the most important matters that must always be of concern to all insiders. In view of the points of view of His Holiness the Imam and the exalted leader concerning the active involvement of students in political affairs and social activities, we must refrain from doing anything that could in any way stop, slow down, or cause problems for this very constructive and necessary movement. I especially call upon His Holiness Ayatollah Yazdi, the respected chief of the judicial power, to observe this point in dealings with student affairs, because with the methods which have been adopted of late (I am referring to what happened at Amir Kabir Industrial University), undesirable climates have arisen among the concerned, combative, and toiling students in the Islamic societies.

He added: On the question of unity between the seminaries and the universities, we know that His Holiness the Imam considered discord between the two important groups, the clergy and the students, to be an imperialist plot, and that he strived to bring these two classes together, and praise God, to a very great extent he was successful, and this matter needs to be monitored. Certainly, any action that might undermine that must be avoided.

Najafqoli Habibi discussed the National Budget Bill for 1371 [21 March 1992-20 March 1993]. He said: I draw the attention of the respected Majles deputies to the credibility of the universities and research and cultural institutions. Certainly there is no need to discuss again

the role of the universities in scientific development, scientific independence, and in the procurement of the manpower needed by the organizations, for this position of the universities and research institutions is one thing that is clear, although some officials sign contracts with foreign countries in some areas which are precisely the responsibility of the universities, and despite the nation's high interests, they overlooked this clear thing, but the matter is not made any less clear by their actions. He said: With the programs to adjust the economy, one of the centers which has suffered the most damage is the universities, and without giving statistics and taking up the respected Majles's time, I will observe that with the great volume of students, the use of 300 percent of the capacity of the universities, and the acceptance of more than 70 percent of the nonnative, oppressed, and deprived students, which itself is a most valuable measure to achieve social justice—and all of this is for achieving scientific self-sufficiency and the necessary manpower—a budget is needed. With the current budget the universities are unable to manage this existing situation, much less accept new students. It is even being said that if the budget for universities were three times the size and the same situation remained, we would not be able to accept even a single student next year, and these claims are certainly based on precise statistics and information. Therefore the respected Majles, as it is about to consider the budget bill, must give careful consideration to the needs of the universities, in everything from student dormitories to public libraries and other things, because if we do not attend to university issues as among the nation's important issues, we will face serious problems trying to achieve the high aspirations of the Islamic revolution and to establish an Islamic cultural foundation.

Continuing his remarks, the Tehran deputy said: With the firm establishment of the nation's executive, judicial, and legislative entities, and with the end of the war crisis, if we want the country to be managed in a correct way, based on the Constitution, the only way is for every university to take on their responsibilities. Individuals should not need to interfere with the responsibilities of others, because in this case personal taste would take precedence and disorganization would ensue, and disappointment and the shirking of responsibility would certainly occur. We sometimes note indications of this occurring now. If the current generation of the Islamic revolution wants to guard the Constitution, they must start now being sensitive to the slightest danger that threatens the Constitution.

The Majles, which decrees the laws for society, must take the lead, and the Constitution has put all their relations and responsibilities under the supervision of the leadership. Therefore, there is no authority in lawmaking other than the Majles, and the respected National Security Council and the respected Expediency Discernment Council must take careful note of this point and realize that, based on observations about the peaceful conditions in the country, the Majles is fully prepared to solve the government's problems, but if they adopt these methods and if that is reflected in other groups instead of presenting a practical and exemplary government, which has been generally and repeatedly emphasized in the statements of the exalted leader, then a government based on strife and power-seeking will be produced, and the appeal of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the exemplary Islamic government, which the exalted leader has discussed repeatedly, will be reversed.

Therefore, insiders in the Islamic government, especially in the nation's current situation, must take note of this issue. When His Holiness the Imam issued the order requiring the formation of the Expediency Discernment Council, he immediately made a precise statement on this matter, saying that this organization must not interfere in the domain of other organizations, and we must take note that the acute conditions of wartime, which required special legal measures, do not apply today and these problems can certainly be resolved through ordinary means, especially with this revolutionary Majles.

The speaker discussed the conference of the leaders of Islamic nations in Senegal. He said: We hope that this conference will think about the fate of the Muslim nation and the glory of the Muslims, and that it will make the necessary decisions concerning the important issues of the Muslim world in scientific, cultural, political, social, and economic dimensions, and they must realize that they are responsible before the nation of Islam.

He added: Today America, by designing the Madrid conference, is trying to sacrifice the nation of Islam at the feet of Zionism in the ultimate humiliation, and for the purpose of preserving and stabilizing its imperialist power. The leaders of Islam are obligated, drawing upon the great investments of the nation of Islam, with oneness of mind and utilizing this great power to glorify and bring independence to the great nation of Islam, to defeat America and to endanger America's interests in the entire region. We must make a serious decision, because the fate of the nation of Islam is changing, and if there is any shirking or time wasted on talk and formalities in the meetings of today, we will have no excuse before God tomorrow, especially since God has given all resources to Muslims for a glorious life, including important energy resources, a large population as a consuming market and labor force, and productive and talented aspects.

He added: Officials involved in economic affairs must reexamine their economic adjustment policy. Reexamination of affairs is one of the important recommendations of Islam and the statements from the respected chief of the Central Bank concerning the consequences of implementing the Labor Law are certainly against the interest of Islam, the interest of the nation's law, and the principles of the Islamic revolution.

In conclusion, Najafqoli Habibi said: We did not make a revolution and shed blood so the Western capitalist system could be established in the country. We made a

revolution to achieve the justice of Islam and to support the oppressed, and not to send capitalists to power, and God willing, the officials will exercise the necessary care in their statements.

Amir Mir, Deputy From Zahedan

The record of those proclaiming human rights, especially the government of America, is a black and shameful record.

Amir Mir, Zahedan deputy, was the second pre-agenda speaker. In his talk he offered condolences on the martyrdom of Her Holiness Zahra (peace be upon her). He then discussed the anniversary of the approval of the International Human Rights Proclamation. He said: Unfortunately, despite all the propaganda the imperialist governments ruling the world, including America, have made over the years throughout the world about human rights, there are no crimes or betrayals contemporary humanity has not seen in the acts of these governments. In the American meaning of the term, human rights is actually a form of political and cultural alignment against the non-Western nations, against nations who want to continue their lives relying on their own cultural principles, outside the Western circuit and cultural domain, and who have other commendable forms of human generosity and people.

In the political and propaganda dimensions, the matter of human rights is always brought up in situations where the interest of the imperialist powers are endangered. Because of one Western hostage, the whole world is eclipsed by the propaganda hooliganism of America and the Western nations, but the groups of hostages held by the Zionist government of Israel from among the leaders and the nation of Palestine are ignored by the same governments, and there is no international reflection. It seems that humans are only those American and European humans, others on the world scene are not considered human.

In our view, the record of those proclaiming human rights, especially the government of America, is a black and shameful record, and we hope that one day humanity and its fate will be freed from the grip and chains of these criminal, inhumane advocates of human rights.

Continuing his remarks, the speaker thanked the president of the republic and the members of his government for their esteemed efforts to save the nation's ailing economy and repair the damage done in the past. He discussed the government's accomplishments, and said: In view of the positive inclinations and sensitivities that have been created in the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and in the nation's total government towards planning and efforts for the nation's growth and economic development through the use of national resources, we hope that in the not-too-distant future we will see basic changes in the nation's economic and social relations, and that in the course of this the problems of the various classes of people, especially those of the wage-earning class, low-income people, and society's deprived people, will be removed in a real and fundamental way.

He added: The relations and behavior toward the public of some managers, especially at the level of deputy minister and province general managers, do not befit the personality of a Muslim manager with responsibilities in the divine government of the Islamic Republic of Iran. What kind of unacceptable practice and tradition is this when people are held up for days and weeks to get appointments, when they are shown no concern on issues that have to do with the life of the people? With the chains of the bureaucracy binding their hands and feet, awash in the culture of paper-shuffling and letter-writing, they issue numerous orders and follow-up letters, sometimes going beyond the principle of the letter, and ultimately ending with nothing more than emptiness and wasted time for the applicant.

These same officials must realize that actions like these accomplish nothing other than to increase public dissatisfaction, and their actions weaken the sacred government of the Islamic Republic of Iran. I ask Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani to pursue the matter of the administrative revolution with the utmost seriousness, and to make the people and the nation's responsible organizations active in this regard, because this is one of the nation's most fundamental problems.

Continuing, the Zahedan deputy discussed the problems in his electoral district. He said:

Pursuing a policy of employment and economic growth in the deprived Province of Sistan va Baluchestan depends on several important factors, including investment, using new technology, and improving the level of the public's culture. The respected government, as an encourager of initiative and intellectual activity, must encourage the private sector to create cultural, industrial, and agricultural institutions in the area, so that with cooperation from the government sector, the necessary conditions will be created for putting to use the material and human talents. It is necessary in the same regard, with financial support both in rials and in foreign exchange and other resources, to encourage the area to create production, industrial, and agricultural factories.

As a representative of the deprived people, I call upon the government of Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani to prevent the elimination of subsidies for water, electricity, and telephone service and other goods, especially construction materials, in Sistan va Baluchestan Province, so that the deprived people of the province will be able to continue their activities at the normal costs. Otherwise, the people will be unable to endure the increased costs, especially in the cases that have been mentioned.

Numerous reports have been received from the dear workers in Zahedan to the effect that their bosses are making excuses and not carrying out the orders and opinions issued by the courts and arbitration councils. I call upon the respected government and the Ministry of

Labor and Social Affairs to deal seriously with this matter and to support the defenseless and oppressed workers, in whose interest the court verdicts were issued, and not to permit the lawful and religiously binding interests of these dear ones to be trampled.

Elsewhere in his talk, Amir Mir discussed the problems of the cultural class of the province, and asked that they be addressed.

He also criticized the drinking water situation in Zahedan. He said: The drinking water situation in the city of Zahedan has reached the point that the unfortunate people of that community must buy bottled water for 200 rials. It is unfortunate that the government and the responsible authorities in the area see such a situation, yet do nothing to solve this problem. In this regard, I remind the respected government to take a serious view of the matter of water in Zahedan and to do some basic thinking in this regard.

'Ezzatollah Damadi, Deputy From Sari

With full awareness, the people have watched the work of the deputies of the Third Majles, and they know better than anyone who has been concerned about them and about the country.

The final pre-agenda speaker was 'Ezzatollah Damadi, the deputy from Sari.

He said that 70 percent of the world's oil reserves are in Saudi Arabia, Iraq, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, and Iran. He said: At the same time, the leverage controlling oil is in Saudi Arabia's hands, and it can lower or raise the price anytime it wants to. It makes use of the oil scientifically, manufacturing products and marketing them to the world, creating conditions for that country's growth.

The speaker added: Oil is the economic blind spot for oil-rich nations. On the one hand, all work and planning follows the sale of oil, and on the other hand, its capabilities have been neglected. To get out of this historic deadlock, it is necessary to create movement in the oil system. The Islamic nations of the region, whether they have oil or not, must use the leverage of oil with unified power, they must stop the plots over the long term and take control of the production, sale, and pricing of oil so that this God-given national capital will not be wasted.

Elsewhere in his talk, the Sari deputy discussed the fourth term of the Majles. He said: With full awareness, our people have watched the work of the deputies of the Third Majles, and they know better than anyone who has been concerned about them and about the country, and who gave election speeches with fanfare, slogans, and shouting to inspire confidence and get votes from the people to continue their lives for a few more days. I advise all the political factions not to endanger their lives in the hereafter for the world of others, and to use their efforts to take part in the elections. I remind the respected Friday imams that the sacred Friday prayer service pulpit must be for all the people, not one special group. The Friday imam must be a father to the people, fulfiling his duty and refraining from group and factional involvement, and he must be a refuge for the people. You must maintain piety and impartiality in the elections and not tell the people what to do. Our people have high political insight and they know their legal responsibility well. Do not disturb a secure situation.

Elsewhere in his talk, he regarded Mazandaran Province as one of the nation's agricultural centers, and then noted: Currently this country produces 58 percent of the country's rice, seven percent of its wheat, eight percent of its barley, 57 percent of the oil-bearing seeds, 72 percent of the cotton, and 28 percent of the citrus fruit.

It is most unfortunate that in Mazandaran Province as an agricultural, livestock, and forest and pasture center, the basic investment has not been made. The experts seem to believe that in Mazandaran Province whatever is spent will be recovered quickly and that with the products of this province the country will not need red meat, rice, and dairy products. For example, when you look at the statistics on the budget for the year 1367 [21 March 1988-20 March 1989], 1.7 percent of the entire national budget was allocated to this province, although in the year 1369 [21 March 1990-20 March 1991] it was multiplied by about 3.5, but this is not acceptable.

The Sari deputy called for increased aid to deprived families and he offered thanks for the assistance from the Quality of Life Organization in the Foundation for the Oppressed and from the Imam's Relief Committee. He added: The Imam's Relief Committee, with few resources and negligible expenditures was successful, and this is worthy of thanks and praise, but the individual amount of aid to these people of 300 tomans per month is quite low and negligible. Now that it is time to study the budget in the Majles commissions, I ask the respected deputies to recommend an increase, and as well as more aid and better control for this deprived class of society. I propose the creation of a ministry of aid and welfare for the Imam's Relief Committee and the Quality of Life Organization.

Elsewhere in his talk, the speaker asked that the status of the assets of the foundations be designated, and in this regard he noted: Some individuals or societies have formed foundations and some of them use government resources. In society they suggest that they formed their foundations with authorization from the exalted leader. Some of them even commit violations which are at odds with their objectives, and this has left a question for our people. I helplessly ask the exalted leader to order the dissolution of these foundations and have their assets transferred to the Imam's Relief Committee for help to the deprived, so that the Imam's Relief Committee can play a more effective role in this area.

The Majles Speaker's Remarks

After the pre-agenda speeches, Mr. Karrubi offered condolences on the anniversary of the martyrdom of the great friend, Her Holiness Zahra (peace be upon her). He expressed the hope that all Muslims, especially the Muslim sisters throughout the Muslim world, will benefit from her short but blessed, comprehensive, merit-filled, complete, and virtuous life.

He added: The short life of that holy woman, which was spent teaching and training the children, defending the position of the vice-regent and the imamate, struggling, carrying out worship and devotion and living simply, along with concern and special interest in the deprived and oppressed, must be a model for all human beings, especially the ladies of Islamic societies.

He noted the anniversary of the intifadah. He said: Every night on the Vision of the Islamic Republic we see terrifying and disturbing scenes of cruelty, killings, and arrests of Palestinians. The curses of God, the reviling of the Prophet of God and the curses of all God's servants upon a human rights that puts pressure every day on oppressed nations to gain benefits. They saw with what cruelty and mercilessness they put the nation out of their homes and dwellings, committing the worst crimes and oppression against them. Those people who support human rights and these evil policies give benefits every day to this criminal Israel, provide propaganda support, and give them loans. Despite all these plots and all this pressure, we see that the resisting, steadfast, and loyal nation of Palestine continues to struggle and resist with determination and will and with reliance on the sacred essence of the Almighty and their faith, and every moment their Islamic revolution expands and spreads more.

He expressed regret that the Senegal Conference affirmed the shameful Madrid conference. He said: Do the Muslims not consider this humiliation and contempt a disgrace upon themselves, and are they not filled with shame before the Almighty God and future generations?

He emphasized: The Islamic Republic of Iran has announced its decisive position time and time again, and all officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran have taken a decisive position on the Madrid conference. The path and position of the Islamic Republic of Iran is the same one laid out by the leadership of the Islamic Republic and our dear Imam, "strengthening the intifadah," and "struggle until the destruction of Israel with the help and grace of Almighty God." [passage omitted on Majles ratifications]

* 22 Dec

92AS0458A Tehran RESALAT in Persian
23 Dec 91 p 5

[Excerpts] Legislative and Parliamentary Division—The Majles met in public session yesterday morning chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemian.

At this session, the arrival of the bill to approve the cultural agreement between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Federal Republic of Germany was announced.

Asadollah 'Abedi, Shiraz Deputy

What need do we have, in the criticism and discussion of ideas and thoughts to apply labels, accusations, and the like?

The first pre-agenda speaker at yesterday's public Majles session was Asadollah 'Abedi, Shiraz deputy. [passage omitted on need for people's participation, constructive criticism]

Continuing his remarks, the Shiraz deputy noted: Leaders are expected to be above factionalism and to work to preserve unity in society, and, God forbid, not to exacerbate problems with narrow mindedness, since, as the exalted leader of the revolution says, the real differences are too small to be shown externally, and at the same time unity in reticence is necessary. In the final portion of his talk, Asadollah 'Abedi discussed society's economic problems. He said:

The existing economic constraints are the result of the former regime's mistaken policies, and also the problems that have arisen since the Islamic revolution, especially the imposed war, and they cannot be solved in the short run. Now, however, as we are in the process of implementing the Economic and Social Development Program, some useful points and observations come to mind: The problem of the great gaps between supply and demand and production and consumption was caused by the excessive growth of currency in circulation on the one hand and the lack of growth in this same production on the other hand, and it is the cause of the imposition of inflation and severe high prices on the public. It will be solved only by increasing production. Currently in our country the capacity and ability to produce exceeds the current output, and to make maximum use of this capacity, officials and management must be planned and coordinated with a comprehensive view, rather than just in terms of districts and regions, so as to achieve the goals of the Five-year Plan.

Hedayatollah Aqa'i, Fasa Deputy

If we do not replace today the endless freeloading with a culture of work and effort, we will face problems tomorrow.

The second pre-agenda speaker was Hedayatollah Aqa'i, Fasa deputy.

He discussed the placement of the National Budget Bill for 1371 [21 March 1992 - 20 March 1993] on the agenda of the Majles commissions. He said: One of the goals clarified and stressed in the Five-Year Plan is to reduce dependence in the foreign exchange oil revenues sector. Before and after the triumph of the Islamic revolution, the dependence in this sector has always been more than

85 percent, and in the rial sector, this percentage has mostly increased, in view of the hidden currents of dependence.

Uncoordinated decisionmaking, illogical conservatism and these kinds of factors have caused us to go more and more every day after this national capital and savings of future generations, and instead of investing oil revenues in infrastructure affairs, we allocate more than 70 percent of it directly or indirectly to current costs, and this very thing has brought about the elements of economic collapse. To move away from this dangerous dependency, we need an umbrella office at the head of everything, and the Majles and the government can play a creative role. If we do not replace today the endless freeloading with a culture of work and effort, we will face problems tomorrow.

He added: Another point that must be mentioned is the imbalances in some adopted policies. Moving in the direction of a free economy without deep study of the cultural and social effects on the one hand and without laying the foundation for it on the other wil cause the spread of various kinds of corruption.

Some profiteers and opportunists, using the atmosphere created and benefiting from public and bank currency in circulation, have acquired enormous wealth under various guises such as limited partnership activities, partnerships and the like. With the removal of price controls as propaganda and market-finding leverage, international companies are operating inside the country, and along with these processes, due to the nation's unrealistic foreign exchange rate and with the free-floating prices, financial corruption has appeared in the executive organizations.

He added: With the studies I have done and according to indications and documentation, every year millions of dollars in foreign exchange are wasted from the nation's financial reserves for dubious reasons on expensive purchases.

Continuing, Aqa'i said: Another point concerning the nation's economic problems is the feeling of lack of employment security among the many toiling farm workers. Unfortunately, almost every day mysterious hands take away from the agriculture class hundreds of hectares of lands which have been confiscated and turned over to agriculture and return them to tribal lords, property owners and those whose acts of oppression are still remembered. [passage omitted on University Day; better ambulance service]

Marziyeh Hadidchi (Dabagh), Tehran Deputy

The third pre-agenda speaker was Marziyeh Hadidchi (Dabagh), Tehran deputy. Using three minutes of Hedayatollah Aqa'i's time, he gave a talk in which he discussed the incident resulting in the death of the late Dr. Gharazi and criticized the closed treatment center and the indifference of the highway patrol about taking action and taking him to the hospital.

He also discussed a similar incident in the death of the late Behnamju, former mayor of Hamadan, as the result of an accident, and he praised his services to the Islamic revolution.

He added: All along every road you take, there are emergency telephones everywhere, but when someone has an accident with two or three children accompanying him, no one is there.

God is my witness, on Monday when I was about to leave Mr. Gharazi's house, Mr. Gharazi's little son had put his hand on my neck. He was crying and saying, you take revenge for my father, whom they did not help, and certainly take revenge on those who were remiss.

We cannot take revenge, we merely issue memos, both to the minister of health and health care and to the highway police officials, asking them to think about measures to take, so that with all these accidents that take place on the various roads, at least in this way we will not lose all the investments the government makes, making some people into prominent figures so that they can continue their services and experiences and convey them to others.

Seyyed Ahmad Musavi, Ahvaz Deputy

Concern for the seminaries and the universities is what will be constructive in resisting the Western cultural invasion.

Seyyed Ahmad Musavi, Ahvaz deputy, was the final pre-agenda speaker.

He offered congratulations on the Islamic Republic of Iran's latest political triumph. He said: Certainly this great triumph was the fruit of the steadfastness, resistance and sacrifice of the Muslim people and the combatants of Islam, and, in a word, it was the fruit of allegiance to the vice regency of the chief jurisconsult, and it was proof that "indeed God will be victorious, you will be victorious, and your actions will stand" [quoting the Koran], and as long as we follow and obey the vice regent of the Muslims, we will see greater and more valuable fruits than this political triumph, because it is God's promise, and God's promise is irrevocable.

Continuing, he thanked the president of the republic and the minister of foreign affairs for the Islamic Republic of Iran's extensive and striking participation in the meeting of leaders of Islamic nations. He listed the features of this conference, which were realized as the result of this active attendance, as follows:

1. The issuance of a clear conference statement encompassing most of the problems of the Muslim world

2. Naming the liberation struggle to free noble Jerusalem and other occupied Palestinian lands and return them to their original owners as the most important issue for the current generation

3. Condemnation of Israel's aggression against Islamic nations and occupation of their lands

He added: The importance of the issuance of this resolution is mainly due to the fact that it was signed after the shameful Madrid conference, in the presence of people who were selected by America to play a role in forming the Madrid conference. That is, "Islam prevails and no one prevails over it".

In view of the fact that the Gulf Cooperation Council was meeting today, he expressed the hope that these countries would affirm the statement issued by the Islamic conference, and, after the changes in the region and after Iran was proven right, that they would conclude that the one they helped and thought was their friend was really their main enemy, and that Islamic Iran is a stable force in the area desiring Islamic brotherhood.

He commemorated Seminary and University Unity Week and noted: World imperialism has carried out plots against our government, and fortunately, all of them, especially the imposed war, have failed, but it must be acknowledged that the latest plot, the Western cultural invasion, is the most dangerous one so far, and if, God forbid, world imperialism should succeed in it, in reality it would have to be said that it succeeded in all its previous plots, with the result of diverting the Islamic revolution, meaning the acceptance of humiliation, degradation and captivity. Therefore, in view of the statements by the exalted leader of the Islamic revolution at the meeting of members of the Cultural Revolution Council, one must stand vigilantly against the Western cultural invasion. Of course the main responsibility initially is directed to the minister of culture and higher education, the minister of Islamic guidance, and the seminaries and the universities.

One cannot fight with slogans. Concern for the seminaries and the universities is what will be constructive in resisting the Western cultural invasion.

He thanked the professors who worked to strengthen the academic grounding of university students. He said: There are professors among them who have not yet understood the clear truths of Islam such as the principle of the vice regency of the chief jurisconsult. How can these people build human beings? Their big problem is that they are aligned with alien Islam and with the West. Let the presidents of the universities and colleges and the representative of the chief jurisconsult eliminate the existing gap with the students so that, by using the university students, they will be able to deal sooner with the existing weaknesses. We hope that along with its concern for the universities, the government will also give attention to the seminary students. It is the seminary students who in effect have taken on the job of guiding society and the people, and, God willing, in the seminaries and the universities we will see innovative and creative thinking in the framework of Islam, and in that way the advantages of the university will be transferred to the seminary and the advantages of the seminary will be transferred to the university.

Elsewhere in his talk the Ahvaz deputy discussed the problems and issues in his electoral district with regard to being ten years behind, the lack of development and investment due to the imposed ware, aimless appointments and dismissals throughout the Islamic revolution in the Province of Khuzestan, the lack of resources for education, public welfare, health care, treatment, scientific work, and services that has caused the inability to attract experts and specialists and their flight from the province, and the presence of guests from other war-afflicted cities in Ahvaz. He called upon officials to act quickly to expand resources for health care and treatment, and to meet the needs of the hospitals in Ahvaz.

He also criticized the increase in physician's fees with authorization from the Ministry of Health, Health Care and Medical Education, the high rate of unemployment in Ahvaz, the expulsion of workers from the Ahvaz Steel Complex and other factories under the mantle of the Ministry of Mines and Metals, and the disarray of urban transportation in Ahvaz, and he called upon officials to address these problems and eliminate them. [passage omitted on ratifications]

* 24 Dec

92AS0462A Tehran RESALAT in Persian
25 Dec 91 p 5

[Report on yesterday's open session of the Majles]

[Excerpts]

Legislative and Parliamentary Division. The open session of the Majles was held yesterday with Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemian presiding.

In this session, a group of farmers and promoters took their places in the audience and the deputy speaker of the Majles thanked and praised them for their presence in the house of the nation.

Habib Borumand, the Representative of Moghan

Gorbachev did not listen to the advice of the late Imam, who said: "Be careful not to fall into the trap of imperialism."

The first pre-agenda speaker in the Majles yesterday was Habib Borumand, the representative of Moghan, who first referred to the abolishment of the Soviet Union and said: [passage omitted on Soviet Union and criticism of U.S.]

Continuing, the speaker condemned the interference of the Government of Turkey in the affairs of the Muslims in Soviet Azerbaijan and said: The United States has extended its bloody hand through the sleeve of the shortsighted government of Turkey and is making decisions concerning the destiny of the suffering Muslims

who share a border with us. With one hand it removes the Islam of the Saudis, and with the other it places it in the pockets of the greedy Turks and sends souvenirs to our brothers, most of whom are our blood relatives. Today, a Turkish citizen is the economic adviser of Motallebof (the president of Azerbaijan), and all the movies that are shown on Baku television are based on the wishes of the trained Americans who have learned Turkish. Could we have anticipated a greater tragedy? I ask the leader of the Islamic revolution to make use of his absolute authority and not allow the oppressed Muslims of the former Soviet Azerbaijan to lose their Islamic identity at the hands of the American-trained Turks. [passage omitted on Rafsanjani's visit to Moghan] In another part of his speech, the representative of Moghan enumerated the violations of the Friday imam of Parsabad and said: My Leader, with utmost embarrassment I request of you to forgive me for what I am about to say. Today, as the representative of the people of Moghan, who have been victims of immeasurable injustice throughout the course of history in terms of lack of attention, I consider it my duty, in order to defend the rights of my people and protect the sacred sanctuary of the Friday imam, to expose those who falsely claim piety, religiousness, and unworldliness so that from here on no one would dare to call himself falsely the representative of the religious guardian and plunder the treasury. Had you not said that officials must avoid accumulating wealth and luxury? Today the Friday imam of Parsabad, based on the evidence that I have and will show to the representatives of the people, has taken possession of 1,024 square meters of the best land in the city, which is sold at 10,000 tomans a square meter, through the wheeling and dealing of the former City Hall [officials], at a little over 9 rials a square meter. I ask the people of Iran to judge and tell me in which city in the country or the world one can find land at 9 rials per square meter? The cities aside, you cannot even find land at the rate of 9 rials in the heart of the deserts of Iran. Oh gentlemen who claim that you are unworldly and pious, based on which religious and legal authorization do you engage in such action? You might say that the City Hall has given it to you. I say, why does the City Hall not give a mere 50 square meters of the land to an ordinary person? Besides, you buy 1,024 square meters of land for 1,000 tomans and sign the deed, while as a representative of the office of the Friday imam, you sign a deed for 380 square meters of the same land for 13,000 tomans. God help us, now we understand the meaning of one roof with two climates! When you pay only 1,000 tomans for this land and then sell it at that price it is clear from whose pocket you have given it away. This is at the same time that you have a two-story power plant in Qom, and in one area of the power plant you have 300 square meters of vacant land. On the other hand, the people of Moghan, including the poor, the oppressed, the self-sacrificers, the families of the martyrs, the freed prisoners of war, the employees and workers of the water agency, agriculture and industry and other offices, wait in line for years to receive 100 square meters of land. Finally, with the type of attention they receive from the unjust official of the urban land office of Moghan, they become disappointed, and what they justly deserve is given over to the roughnecks. Is it fair for us to witness such a scene from a distance and for the officials of the water agency, the City Hall and other offices to help you in this improper act and pave the road for you? I ask the great leader to send inspectors to investigate this clear violation and other violations committed by this individual hidden in the cloak of piety.

The representative of Moghan also pointed out: On the other hand, we see another official who violates the goals of the martyrs and is engaged in misappropriation. Mr. Karrubi, you are not in Iran at the present time, but I say to you that for six months now, your person in charge of the Shahid Foundation, who has a brand-new Nissan, rather than visiting the families of the martyrs in the villages and cities, is engaged in election campaigns, excursions, and parties day and night with his family and in buying and selling land and cars. Tell us who should investigate such issues. We have reminded Mr. Kashani (one of the officials of the Shahid Foundation) several times. He has reacted to us in such a manner that cannot be described here. I warn you officials of the Shahid Foundation of the results of the sighs of those who have given martyrs.

He then reminded the officials of the Ministry of Energy to stop the autonomous attitude of the head of the water agency in pricing water, imposing his personal opinions regarding the base rate of water, and forcing the farmers to engage in collective farming, because the oppressed people of Moghan will never be content with the imposition of such opinions.

Thanking the director of the agriculture and industry agency of Moghan, the speaker asked the minister of agriculture to pay attention to the difference in salaries, which have decreased among the employees and experts of the agriculture and industry agency.

In conclusion, the representative of Moghan issued reminders to the executive officials.

Hasan Ja'fari, the Representative of the City of Babak

The government must either activate the services sector or invest for the future generations. Any wise person would choose the latter path.

Hasan Ja'fari, from the city of Babak, was the second pre-agenda speaker.

Offering his congratulations on the recent political victory of the Islamic Republic of Iran and thanking the president for repeating the heroism of the revolution and sending the message of the oppressed people of Palestine to the world, he asked the representatives to make an effort to direct the foreign currency budget mainly towards lasting goals and productive and job-creating

investments, such as explorations, to promote the valuable resources of the country, the large, strategic industries and agriculture, and not to emphasize the services sector, unless in an emergency.

He added: I ask the noble, resistant, and revolutionary nation to encourage the government with regard to essential investments, so that, God willing, it will be able to advance the country towards self-sufficiency, because everyone knows that with limited resources we cannot both invest for the future generations and also activate the services sector. Therefore, the government must either pour these limited resources on the market and make the national merchandise and subsidies thrive and for a few days create an atmosphere of praise and gratitude for itself or continue to accept criticism and think about the long-term future. Any wise person would choose the latter path.

In continuation, he referred to the importance of the fourth-term Majles elections and said: The importance of this issue requires the honorable president and the honorable minister of interior to make every effort to have sound elections. As everyone knows, election activities began months ago, and the candidates, both the new ones and the incumbents, are very active. What is important is that some of the executive officials, that is, those in the offices of governors general and governors, are not sitting idle and are working quietly but hard to have their own candidates elected. They are also trying not to leave any tracks and know that actions speak louder than words. If a report is sent to the Ministry of Interior or the Council of Guardians, they immediately say that it is a lie and demand evidence. Promises are given by recognized candidates supported by the offices of governors general, and some are acted upon, which is the best evidence. Hence, addressing Mr. Nuri, the honorable minister of interior, he said: Haj Aqa Nuri, you know that you are directly responsible for the elections. You know full well that advice alone cannot bring about sound elections. Rather, legal and decisive action is necessary. On the other hand, you know well that the majority of the people do not dare to write or sign anything against the officials, because they are very much afraid of what they have seen. For example, I say that several years ago when the people of Babak asked to be separated from Kerman and join their homeland, Yazd, an employee of the Governor's Office of the city of Babak at the time wrote a poem about it, which resulted in his permanent dismissal. I even wrote a letter to the Ministry of Interior during the tenure of Mr. Mohtashami to which I received no answer. Civilians also, for different reasons, do not dare to react.

In continuation, the representative of the city of Babak described the problems of his constituency and said: The city of Babak is a city in name only, without any of the advantages of being a city. Even if it were changed to a village, they would call it "the village of the city of Babak," a city whose greatest gain from the revolution was to be divided and mutilated, a city in which no hope for employment remains, a city whose water runs towards the great Sarcheshmeh factory and whose people become homeless and go towards Tehran, Karaj and Shahriar for jobs, a city towards whose prosperity steps were not taken, neither prior to the revolution nor since the revolution, a city that by the grace of God is full of human potential and rich and abundant natural resources. I am proud to say that some of the freed sons of this city, after years in captivity, as soon as they returned to their homeland received their high-school diplomas and went to the universities in medicine and other fields. The first rank in medicine in Region Three was received by one of the young people of this city.

He criticized not building the floating glass factory and the airport promised by officials and asked the president and the minister of mines and metals to expedite the operation of Meydush mine and use local manpower in the related tasks.

Qorban'ali Salehabadi, the Representative of Mashhad

The third pre-agenda speaker was Qorban'ali Salehabadi, the representative of Mashhad.

Offering his congratulations on the recent political victory of the Islamic Republic of Iran and thanking the UN secretary general, he said: The United Nations ratified a resolution with a majority vote several years ago equating Zionism with racism.

This resolution in fact considered Zionism and Israel in step and equivalent to racism. In recent days, this resolution was nullified by the United Nations upon the request of the United States. This action indicates the active presence of the Zionists in the general policy-making of the U.S. Government and also the United Nations [text missing] composed of Jews. Of the U.S. Senate seats, 51 percent belong to Zionists. In other words, of 100 U.S. senators, 51 are Jews and 49 belong to the group representing 90 percent of U.S. citizens. In fact, at the present time, a racist and Jewish minority rules over a mostly Christian majority in the United States.

He added: The U.S. rulers must know that in the same way that world public opinion is against them due to their crimes in the farthest areas of this world, ultimately in the United States as well, the majority of the people will rise up against the racist, Jewish minority that has besmirched the name of the United States and its people before the people of the world and will pull down the racists from power.

Praising and thanking the president for the important, valuable, and analytical statements in the opening ceremonies of the conference in support of the Islamic revolution of Palestine and also his analysis of the current issues of the Islamic world and its ill effects in the Islamic conference in Senegal, Salehabadi said: The point is clear to Muslims why a number of the leaders of Islamic countries, when they realized that the president of our country was taking part in the conference, refused to participate, because the presence of Iran and our

diplomatic activity in this conference would prevent the ratification of the demands of the Zionists and the Americans. For this reason, a number of their loyal servants did not participate in it.

Referring to the visit of the president to Sudan and his proper welcome from the people of that country, he said: The people of Sudan moved in unity for the sake of the Imam and the revolution. In fact, in Sudan, an entire country was set in motion with all its resources. These unprecedented demonstrations in Sudan show the base and potential of the Islamic revolution in the world. If we are steadfast and decisive in our principles, the storming forces of Muslims and freedom seekers in the world will support the Islamic Republic of Iran, and if we give up the essential positions of the revolution, we shall lose this great and dynamic energy forever.

He emphasized: Iran is a country of strategic importance, with rich oil, natural gas and copper resources and a 60-million-large consumer market. The West has always needed and will always need Iran, and we must not look to the West motivated by reform. Rather, we must count on our own capabilities and the potential talents of Iran and Iranians. We must solve the economic problems of the people rapidly, find the roots of the factions that disrupt national unity and solve the problems rationally. The present economic policies have increased pressure on the oppressed and the deprived in the society, and every day a larger number of people comes closer to the poverty line in terms of living expenses. This problem is worrisome. We must revise the economic policies.

If economic policies are resolved and legitimate and legal freedom is achieved in the society in practice and the people feel that they have a share in the destiny of the country and important decisionmaking, the changes and the new world order will not threaten the Islamic revolution. If these goals are not achieved, our enemies will be sitting in ambush. The Koran says to us that we must learn a lesson from the fate of others. The changes in the Eastern bloc and the Soviet effort can be a great lesson to us. These changes must be thoroughly analyzed so that we can benefit from them. If there are those in our country who want to engage in reforms by looking to the West and hoping for loans from the World Bank and the IMF, they must know that they will destroy both themselves and the revolution, because the important incident of the elimination of the Eastern Bloc, which was the result of Gorbachev's theory of looking to the West, was followed by the disintegration of the Soviet Union and the Eastern Bloc, and today the people of the Soviet Union and the Eastern Bloc countries, disappointed in Western aid, are fearful for their future. They think about the Western-style reforms and regret their support for them.

Mohammad Rashidian, the Representative of Abadan

Reconstruction has major problems to which the officials of the regime must find solutions.

Mohammad Rashidian, from Abadan, was the last pre-agenda speaker. He said: Since the beginning of the war, all of our problems, we the war-stricken people, have resulted either from being war-stricken or reconstruction. During the past 11 years, we have suffered greatly and have become refugees and homeless. Unfortunately, reconstruction in the past two years, as I stated in 1368 [21 March 1989-20 March 1990], has major problems to which the Majles, the officials, the grand leader and the president must pay attention. I have frequently spoken about those problems to these dear friends, particularly Haj Aqa Hashemi.

He added: Corruption in the reconstruction of Abadan and Khorramshahr has reached the highest level. I have clear evidence for what I say. It has been proven that Mr. Tavalla'i, the governor general of Khuzestan, appointed elements and individuals to the administration of the reconstruction of Khorramshahr and Abadan, and under their umbrella, corrupt contractors were created who plundered the reconstruction property. When some brothers investigated these cases and took them to the courts and the judicial authorities, they themselves were dismissed from their jobs. Even some of the very sincere Hezbollah elements who had a history of self-sacrifice in the front were sent into exile and driven out of Abadan. What I say is what most of the people of Abadan and Khorramshahr know and whisper. Now, the people and the clerics are very upset about reconstruction under the supervision of Mr. Tavalla'i (of which we have spoken frequently to Mr. Mirzadeh).

The problem that exists is that one of the employees of one of the offices in one of the remote provinces received a six-month leave of absence, came to Abadan and took over several contracts to rebuild the houses of the oil company. He pledged to rebuild many of these houses. He received the materials and a great deal of money up front. But, unfortunately, he did not do his job, and we see that he was summoned to the court. The governor general's office and its agents are trying to free this dishonest and incompetent contractor, and I have the documents here.

He added: Haj Aqa Jami, who is one of the special Friday imams of the country, and all the people of Abadan and Khuzestan are fond of him, and other clerics who put up resistance during the war in Abadan are now very upset about this situation. Now, all the people in Abadan are upset. Since last Sunday, the people have sent their protests regarding the transfers, especially the dismissal of the active and committed mayor, who is loved by all the people, the clergy and most of the representatives of Abadan. They have marched. They have posted signs. They have sent letters to the grand leader and to the officials of the country. Also, the dismissals and appointments that have taken place throughout this province disturb the election and the climate.

We request that Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani send a committee to investigate the problems of reconstruction and

improper transfers and also to console Haj Aqa Jami. The honorable minister of interior, Haj Aqa Nuri, has told us frequently that he has told the governor general to cooperate with Haj Aqa Jami and the committed clerics in Abadan and take their opinions into consideration. Why are the opinions of a resistent, patient, pious and unpretentious man such as Haj Aqa Jami, who is respected by the Imam, the grand leader and all the officials of the country, not taken into consideration? The people and our refugees no longer know where to turn. On the one hand, the foundation for the affairs of the refugees puts pressure on them to vacate, and on the other hand the city is in ruins.

We request that these problems be given attention and that the unsound officials be dismissed and prosecuted. And we shall request, God willing, investigation through the Majles.

Ratifications

The first item on the agenda of the open session of the Majles yesterday was the second round of discussions on the urgency two of attaching one note to Article 106 of the internal bylaws of the Majles. Upon the suggestion of the representatives, the attached note was ratified as follows:

In order to examine the proposals of the related specialized committees, the plan and budget committee of the Majles shall be responsible for holding joint meetings with such committees accordingly. Members of the related specialized committees shall have the right to vote in those sessions, but the responsibility for investigation, coordination and combination of the entire budget and the budget report to the Majles and its defense in the Majles shall continue to be that of the plan and budget committee as the main committee. This law is to be implemented from the date of ratification.

The proposal to decrease the number of years for retirement of employed women to 20 years was the second item on the agenda, the single article of which was ratified.

Single article. Paragraph B of Note 1 of Article 2 of the law on retirement and the function of the national employment law ratified on 13/12/68 [4 March 1990] by the Majles shall be amended as follows:

B. Women employees with 20 years of service. [as published]

The third item on the agenda was the first round of discussions of the proposal on the need to create city halls in qualified villages of the country. Examination of this item was postponed to the next session.

Also in yesterday's session, the proposal on amending Paragraph G of Note 5 of the 1370 [21 March 1991-20 March 1992] budget concerning funds for the oppressed areas of the country was discussed with mention of an urgency two, and the urgency two of the proposal was ratified by the representatives.